

Monday

Last...
The inside story of what went wrong in the Americas Cup
...laugh
Modern Times meets the people who stand up to make you laugh



Party...
Full coverage of the SDP conference
...games
Cricket: who will win the John Player League?
Cutting loose
St Kitts-Nevis - the newest state on the brink of independence

TV dispute blacks out soccer

Independent television's Sunday afternoon football programme *The Big Match* has been blacked out for this weekend by a technicians' dispute. Viewers in England and Wales will be offered light entertainment.

The dispute, over whether the matches should be edited locally or centrally by London Weekend Television, involves technicians at Central Television and TV South.

Cram's triumph

Steve Cram, the world 1,500 metres champion, beat Steve Ovett, the world record holder over the same distance, in a mile race at Crystal Palace. His time was 3 minutes 52.56 seconds.

Head hides

Mr Lyn Blackshaw has gone into hiding after giving up the headship of Darlington Hall independent school. He resigned as he and his wife were pictured naked in *The Sun* newspaper Page 3.

Port bombed

In the second day of rebel air attacks on Nicaragua, oil storage tanks and a bridge at the port of Corinto were the targets for bomb and rocket attacks.

Jenkin warning

Councils must not use planning restrictions to hamper the growth of new industries, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

Racist allies

The strong racist overtones of local by-elections in France have assumed national importance in France after right wing opposition parties formed an alliance with the National Front in an attempt to defeat the left.

Reforms agreed

South Africa's parliament has approved the Government's constitutional reform Bill which gives limited political power to Indians and Coloureds but excludes the country's 20 million blacks.

Pensions battle

The battle has begun to give a fairer pensions deal to people who leave their jobs before pensionable age. One expert claimed their present treatment "often verges on the criminal".

Durie defeated

Jo Durie was beaten 6-4, 6-4, by Chris Lloyd in the semi-finals of the US tennis championships in New York. Mrs Lloyd will meet Martina Navratilova in today's final.

Middlesex lose

Middlesex lost by seven wickets to Northamptonshire at Lord's yesterday to leave Essex in a favourable position to win the county championship. Both teams begin their final matches in the competition today.

Leader page 9
Letters: On Korean air disaster, from Mr K Evans, and Mrs E Young; energy services, from Professor E A Bell; town and country, from Lord Dunsford
Leading articles: SDP Conference; BP sale of Forth Field; the Armenians
Features, page 8
Finding the films for cable TV: Bernard Lemming goes too far: a Red Guard's story: Liverpool Street loses its splendour
Obituary, page 10
Air Marshal Sir Gilbert Vichot, Air Commodore W S Gardner

Home News	2-4	Diary	8
Overseas	4-6	Press Bards	10
Arts	10	Religion	10
Books	10	Science	10
Business	11-15	Services	10
Chess	2	Sport	15
Church	10	TV & Radio	19
Court	10	Universities	19
Crossword	20	Weather	20

Mortgages set to reach 13% after break up of cartel

By Lorna Bourke

Home loan rates could soon be as much as 13 per cent after a surprise move by Abbey National to withdraw from the Building Societies Association agreement on interest levels.

By pulling out, Abbey National has effectively broken the interest rates cartel and a free-for-all could follow with societies competing for deposits. This would push up the investment rates and drag the mortgage rate higher.

Mr John Bayliss, one of Abbey National's general managers, confirmed yesterday that his society had given the national association the required three months' notice of pulling out.

"We are of the view that the agreement has outlived its usefulness. We have given formal notice of withdrawal from the interest rate agreement."

"What we are interested in is healthy competition, and what we want is to be able to compete on equal terms with other societies," he said.

Over the past year, the six big societies have been losing their share of the market to the medium and smaller societies which have been free to offer higher rates to investors. "The big building societies have honoured the undertaking, and as a result they have been losing out to the smaller societies," Mr Bayliss said.

The trigger for Abbey National's withdrawal was frustration at being obliged to give 28 days' notice of an increase in the rate on its 7-day notice accounts.

It wants to put up the rate from 7.75 per cent to 8 per cent, bringing it in line with the 8 per cent being offered by most big societies on their 28-day notice "extra interest" accounts. This would give Abbey National a distinct edge over its competitors.

The Building Societies Association's reaction was to announce a review of the cartel, which will look at both the system of recommended rates, and the agreement whereby societies have to give 28 days' notice of any interest rate changes.

The review will consider, in the light of increasing competition within the building society industry and between societies and other financial institutions, whether there should be changes.

Monthly Mortgage Repayments over 25 years		
Loan £	11.25 %	13.0 %
15,000	116.10	128.40
20,000	154.80	171.20
25,000	193.50	214.00
30,000	232.20	256.80
40,000	309.60	342.40
50,000	387.00	428.00
75,000	580.50	642.00
100,000	774.00	856.00

Figures to be released next week by the Building Societies Association are expected to show that the societies took in around £500m in August, and September's figures, with the launch of the new 9 per cent two-year term savings account, to be between £600 and £700m.

The societies will need to sustain net receipts at this level at least until the end of the year to meet current demand for loans, but they may have trouble doing this once term shares investment subsidies.

The popularity of the term shares paying 9 per cent, indicates that the societies could probably take in sufficient money to meet mortgage demand.

maintain it, news of Abbey National's defection would, in any case, precipitate a flood of withdrawals by other societies none of which could afford to give Abbey National an edge.

If the notification period was to go, the market would be open for instant interest rate changes and almost certainly the recommended rate for investments would go too. Society chiefs believe, however, that the Building Societies Association will continue to recommend a mortgage rate as a benchmark for fixing investment rates.

The societies want to end the home loan queues, and the abolition of the cartel would give them freedom to raise investment rates to the point where they can attract enough money to satisfy demand for loans.

In today's market, the societies can probably achieve this equilibrium with an investment rate of around 8.25 to 8.75 per cent, which means a mortgage rate of between 12.5 per cent and 13 per cent.

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Left set to takeover Labour's NEC

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A left-wing landslide on the Labour Party national executive committee (NEC) is being confidently predicted as trade union leaders make their political choices in the run-up to next month's party conference.

The present majority of 17-12 for the centre-right coalition on the NEC is almost certain to be converted to an 18-11 majority for the hard left and their allies.

Political brokers in the moderate unions are already privately conceding defeat in the executive elections, and are pulling out all the stops to halt the mounting challenge of Mr Michael Meacher for the deputy leadership.

Mr Meacher and his main rival, Mr Roy Hattersley, are reliably reported to be running practically neck and neck, with 45 and 46 per cent of the electoral college vote respectively.

The left's arithmetic, based on known declared positions and private promises, suggests that the leadership race is over and that Mr Neil Kinnock, the centre-left candidate, will win on the first ballot with not less than 56 per cent of the vote.

But the race for the office of treasurer will be a close run thing between the competing political groups. Mr Eric Varley is being challenged by left winger Mr Albert Booth, who lost his

parliamentary seat in the general election. Mr Booth is understood to be in front by a short head.

It is in the dominant trade union section of the executive that most change is expected. Mr Eric Clarke, secretary of the Scottish miners and Mr Charles Kelly of the building union, UCATT, are tipped to regain the seats they lost.

It is expected that they will be joined by Mr Douglas Hoyle of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs and Mrs Barbara Switzer of the white collar engineering union, TASS. These four gains by the left would alone tip the balance of power, but the moderates are also expected to lose ground in the constituency (CLP) and women's sections.

Miss Joan Maynard, Mrs Margaret Beckett and Mrs Renee Short are all thought to be safe bets while the constituencies are expected to return Mr Tony Benn, Mr Eric Heffer, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mrs Jo Richardson and Mr Norman Atkinson. Furthermore, if he fails to win the deputy leadership, Mr Meacher could win a seat in the CLP section.

The shift in political balance on the national executive may be a serious embarrassment if the so-called "dream ticket" of a Kinnock-Hattersley leadership comes to fruition.

Owen gives ground on candidate selection

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The national leadership of the Social Democrats agreed yesterday to joint selection with the Liberals - in exceptional circumstances - of Alliance candidates for next year's elections to the European Parliament.

It also agreed that a working group should consider joint selection for Westminster elections and report within the next two or three months.

The agreement, which neither side expected, was reached at a meeting at Westminster of the so-called joint leaders' advisory committee, at which Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Whip, stood in for Mr David Steel.

The deal is subject to endorsement by the National Council of

the SDP tonight and by the Liberal national executive in ten days. It will also be put to SDP members in the opening debate tomorrow of their council and consultative assembly at Salford.

Influential Liberals have been pressing for joint selections of candidates. But in spite of pressure from his own party, Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, had until yesterday resisted it.

In an interview published in the magazine *New Democrat* today, he says: "I can see no case for joint selection, unless we had agreed to merge the parties."

So, although both sides gave ground yesterday, the significant concession was made by Dr Owen.

Mugabe and his 'law of detention'

Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, said last night in Dublin that the four Air Force officers still held after being cleared in court on sabotage charges had been rearrested because of intelligence information about them.

The decision to take them back into custody 40 minutes after their acquittal in a Harare court had been taken by himself and his Minister of Security.

Mr Mugabe told a press conference at the end of a two-day official visit to the Irish Republic that the two set free were being released because they had been found to be "less involved" in alleged activities.

Mr Mugabe said: "The other cases will be reviewed and if we decide they should be released, they will be released. Those less involved will eventually be released - those more involved will be kept in custody."

"Why is there so much concern about these men?" he asked. "They are not the only ones in detention, there are others. Is it because they are white? Is it because they are Mrs Thatcher's kin and kind?" He added: "We make our judgment on the basis of intelligence information and not necessarily on what evidence is given in court."

"We decided these men had come through the judicial process and we would look again at the evidence and make a judgment... It is the common law we are applying - it is the law of detention."

He rejected suggestions that his government's decision had amounted to dictatorship. He was not unhappy with the court's decision. It had interpreted the law as it stood.

Mr Mugabe commented: "The criminal procedure we have inherited is a stupid one. It says it does not matter if a person has committed a murder if it is found that police coercion has been used. He might be a murderer or a rapist or anything. It is absolutely stupid."

"It is one of the principles borne out of the stupidity of our colonial past. After independence we discovered that from those who served with Ian Smith during UDI there emerged elements that worked hand in hand with South Africa to destabilise our situation."

Two officers freed, page 6



Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, was snubbed yesterday by local officials of the National Union of Mineworkers at Wearmouth Colliery, Sunderland, when he made his first visit underground since his appointment. Ronald Faux writes. When Mr MacGregor emerged from the 2,000ft deep shaft he said: "The mine is well equipped. They are a great bunch of people doing a great job."

Mr David Hopper, NUM lodge secretary at the colliery, said local officials declined the invitation to meet Mr MacGregor because area officials had not been included.

Moscow admits that missiles destroyed Korean airliner

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, chief of the Soviet general staff, yesterday told an unprecedented press conference in Moscow that the ill-fated Korean airliner had been destroyed by two missiles fired from a Sukhoi 15 fighter above Sakhalin Island.

The decision to fire had been taken by the local air defence commander and had not been referred to Moscow until after the jumbo had been shot down, killing the 269 passengers on board.

Marshal Ogarkov spoke in front of a large map of the region, using it to illustrate his contention that the Korean 747 had deviated from its route shortly after leaving Anchorage, had been in the same area as an American RC135 reconnaissance aircraft and had been heading for the base of Vladivostok when its flight was "terminated".

A red cross near the town of Yuzhno Sakhalinsk marked the spot.

Marshal Ogarkov shared the platform with Mr Georgy Kornienko, the Deputy Foreign Minister and Mr Leonid Zamyatin, a senior party official, both of whom said the aircraft's destruction and the loss of life should be blamed on the US.

Marshal Ogarkov said Moscow had no plan to produce new evidence to support its case, as had been suggested.

The press conference provided the first confirmation that the jumbo had been hit by rockets and that the fighter which fired them was a Sukhoi 15 and not a MiG, as had been claimed by the US.

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Two officers freed, page 6

He gave a detailed account of the interception, saying the Sukhoi had fired four rounds of tracer shells as a warning before being ordered to fire missiles.

Marshal Ogarkov was repeatedly asked to explain why it had taken the Soviet authorities six days to refer to "stopping" or "terminating" the flight.

President Reagan yesterday signed a proclamation designating tomorrow as a national day of mourning for the victims of the Korean airliner disaster.

"This is a crime against humanity that must never be forgotten, here or throughout the world", the proclamation stated.

"terminating" the flight and eight days to disclose that this meant it had been shot down by a missile.

He and Mr Zamyatin insisted angrily that Tass reports from the beginning had talked of "stopping" the flight, although a check showed this was not true.

On recordings of the Soviet pilot's exchanges with ground control, in which he referred to the lights of the "target", Marshal Ogarkov said he had been referring to the lights of the second Soviet pursuing fighter. The marshal did not question the authenticity of the tapes.

He said the 747 and the RC135 had at one point merged on radar screens for 10 minutes, until the RC135 headed for Alaska and the 747 for Kamchatka. He suggested the RC135 had been guiding the jumbo. "Soviet air defences came to the conclusion that an intelligence plane was heading for our air space."

Marshal Ogarkov confirmed *Pravda* reports that the air defences could have shot down the airliner earlier, over Kamchatka and said they would have used Sam 5 missiles.

Japan finds debris and child's body

Wakkanai, Japan (AP) - A child's body and part of what may be the tail of Korean Airlines flight 007 were washed up on the northern coast of Hokkaido on Thursday and yesterday, police said.

The child's body, with a small metal fragment in its head and four plastic splinters in its chest, was found by Japanese fishermen 100 yards offshore on Hokkaido's north eastern coast on Thursday.

An autopsy was being conducted yesterday to determine if the child was one of the 269 people aboard the Korean airliner.

The child appeared to be between six and 11 years old, but its race could not be immediately determined. Dr Hiroshi Ishibashi, a medical school professor, said after examining the body.

The police at Wakkanai, on the northern tip of Hokkaido, said they had estimated it would take a week for sea currents to wash fragments of the plane to the Hokkaido coast.

Further general, page 6
UN draft, page 6

US pressing for tougher Nato action

From Ian Murray, Brussels

A ban for a limited period on all commercial flights from Nato countries into the Soviet Union was being discussed last night by a special meeting of ambassadors to the alliance in Brussels.

Although France and Greece were unlikely to change their opposition to the idea, the meeting was held at West Germany's initiative to underline the outrage in Nato countries at the Soviet act in shooting down the South Korean jumbo jet on September 1.

At the same time officials preparing the meeting were careful to point out that there was no intention of turning the affair into an East-West conflict by calling a meeting at Nato.

"We want the tragedy seen for what it is, a diplomatic said. 'It is not an East-West issue, but a question of the Soviet Union against the world.'"

The meeting reviewed the five points already agreed by Nato foreign ministers in Madrid this week at the European Security Conference. These are: new international laws to forbid firing on civil aircraft in peacetime; better coordination between military and civilian air control; a full investigation of the incident; compensation for the victims; and a ban on Moscow flights for up to a fortnight.

The US had hoped for a tougher statement and was last night exploring the chances of a more delicate response from its allies. Nevertheless, an American official made clear that the White House was prepared to accept the outcome of the meeting and would not try to take a hard initiative on its own. "We have found out now that there is no point going for sanctions on your own," an official said ruefully.

The foreign ministers of the EEC met in Athens on Monday for a regular review of international affairs.

Syrians pour in arms to Druze

From Robert Fisk, Bhamdoun, Lebanon

Despite warnings from the United States not to get involved in the mountain battles outside Beirut, Syria is pouring shells, rockets, mortars, artillery and hundreds of tons of ammunition into the newly-captured Christian town of Bhamdoun for the victorious Druze militias there to use against the Lebanese Army and the Christian Phalanges.

Much of Bhamdoun is in ruins, and at least six fires were burning out of control yesterday as shells exploded across the houses. But Palestinian, Lebanese leftist and pro-Syrian Baathist guerrillas have now joined forces there with Druze militias.

Driving into Bhamdoun under shellfire yesterday 1,000 exiled Palestinian guerrillas from the Palestine Liberation Organization's anti-Arafat faction and militiamen of the Lebanese Communist Party manning checkpoints on the broken streets and lounging on smashed pavements, many of them smoking large Cuban cigars.

"This was a great victory," one of them said, leaping to his feet and pointing excitedly through the haze to the distant outline of Beirut below. "We shall be in Beirut in two days," he shouted.

RAF sends out Buccaneers

Six RAF Buccaneers have arrived in Cyprus to provide air support, if needed, for the British contingent in the Lebanon multinational peacekeeping force (Henry Stanhope writes).

The decision to send the Buccaneers follows the deterioration in the Beirut situation, which has seen the 97-strong British squadron from the Queen's dragoon Guards come under fire. The United States and France have already got ships and aircraft supporting them.

From back alleys and ridges around the town, Druze artillerymen sent salvo after salvo of shells across the mountains towards Beirut and into the village of Souk el-Gharb where the Lebanese Army is still grimly clinging on to a thin corridor of territory that runs south from the Beirut-Damascus highway, and is now all that prevents a Druze advance on the Beirut suburbs.

With the boom and crash of heavy guns all around, Bhamdoun lay under a cloud of dust and black smoke all day.

The Druze have buried the bodies that littered the streets of the town. They insist that there was no massacre of civilians, indeed that carloads of women and children were permitted to leave Bhamdoun before their bombardment last Sunday following the departure of the Israeli Army.

But several militiamen of Mr Walid Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) said that

continued on page 6, col 4

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سكنا في الامم

Dartington head says 'I'm a victim' as parents delight in his departure

Mr Lyn Blackshaw went into hiding with his wife yesterday after his resignation as headmaster of Dartington Hall, a progressive public school in Devon, as a photograph of the couple naked appeared in *The Sun* newspaper.

Mr Blackshaw's sudden departure came after only a term at Dartington, whose fees range from £1,200 to £5,800, as parents gathered support for a campaign to force the school's seven trustees to dismiss him. He had been accused of dramatising the school's problems and it was alleged that he had acted autocratically and alienated pupils, staff and parents.

He was particularly criticized for a six-page letter he sent to parents saying that pupils were involved in burglaries, sexual activity, drug abuse and other behaviour for the way he had expelled four pupils and for allegedly kicking another.

However, his running of the school had found favour with some parents and, apparently, staff. The Dartington school committee was divided over his headship.

Mr Blackshaw, aged 44, issued a statement claiming that he had been "a victim of a campaign by a small but active minority". He said he did not regret his past behaviour and hoped to carry on living "a real life". He said the publication of the photograph had some bearing on his departure, and described the whole affair as "just very tragic".

Mr Blackshaw's resignation was well received by some parents and two members of staff who had resigned over his alleged behaviour. Mr David Gribble, a staff member for 22 years and middle schools until his recent resignation, expressed "absolute delight" at the news.

Mr Blackshaw's future was kept in doubt when *The Sun* newspaper carried photographs of Mrs Beth Blackshaw posing topless for the magazine, *Mayfair* seven years ago. Although the couple said the photographs were in the past and irrelevant *The Sun* yesterday published another photograph showing them together in a sexual pose. Mr Blackshaw

resigned hours before the newspaper went on sale.

Mr Blackshaw, a former journalist with Reuters, and the *Rand Daily Mail*, had also been a teacher in London, worked in advertising with Kodak and was a courier with a tour firm. He gained an MA degree at Cambridge and took a degree in counselling psychology at the University of Oregon in the United States.

In a statement made in the early morning, Mr Blackshaw said the trustees had received his resignation, "reluctantly" and said the decision was reached after experiencing "a long and arduous campaign by a small and active minority who undermined my position and my staff on behalf of young people and their parents".

He said the photographs of himself and his wife were a "romantic sequence taken by a photographer in their own home after they had been married eight years. They were very nice pictures. They were a celebration of our marriage."

Emphasizing that he had no shame and no regrets, he said his wife had showed the pictures to her headmaster when she was a junior schoolteacher and he thought they were great.

Mr Blackshaw said he was greatly relieved by Mr Blackshaw's departure.

He said that he had spoken to numerous parents since the resignation, and there was "tremendous relief", although he acknowledged that some other parents supported Mr Blackshaw, and believed that his tough approach was the right one. Those parents who opposed him were particularly annoyed that the head had exaggerated the school's problems, especially over the number of pupils allegedly involved in burglaries.

He said that since Mr Blackshaw arrived at the school, a number of parents had withdrawn their children, and sent them instead to the King Edward VI Comprehensive in Totnes, and a number had told him that they would now send their children back to Dartington.

He said his wife was backing him in the decision. "We are a remarkable team. We have a very beautiful and long-standing relationship."

Immediately after Mr Blackshaw resigned, the running of the school was taken over by Mr Roger Tilbury, the deputy head, and Mr Eric Adams, the bursar. The trustees held a meeting to discuss the new terms, which starts in two weeks, and the appointment of a new head.

Mr Gribble, the head of the junior and middle school who resigned last month because he found Mr Blackshaw's way of dealing with pupils and adults unacceptable, said he hoped the head's resignation would enable the school to put right the "absurd" criticisms made of it.

He said Mr Blackshaw's resignation was "a marvellous example of poetic justice. He tried to blacken people's character and he has been forced to leave because his character has been blackened."

Mr Paul Wesley, a Totnes bookseller, said a meeting of parents planned for tomorrow to discuss Mr Blackshaw's position would go ahead. Parents would discuss constructive proposals for the future of the school "so the same mistakes do not happen again".

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Mrs Beth Blackshaw and her husband Mr Lyn Blackshaw, who are in hiding after his resignation from Dartington Hall.

Freedom is school's golden rule

By Richard Evans

"This school is for adventure," the opening words of the first Dartington Hall prospectus in 1926, proudly declared.

The events of the past few days which culminated in the resignation of its headmaster have certainly proved the point, although not, perhaps, in the way the school's idealistic and radical founders originally planned.

Yet this progressive independent establishment is, in a sense, now more "traditional" in its make-up and running than when it started.

"There were virtually no rules then", one founder pupil who is now a local businessman said yesterday. "There was no compulsion to attend classes. You could smoke, and there was free expression. I cannot remember that sexual intercourse was basically frowned upon."

What was then regarded as a revolutionary educational concept



Foxhole, the senior school at Dartington Hall.

soon gained the school an international reputation for co-education, democratic decision-making, close staff-pupil relations, and efforts to reduce unnecessary controls.

While the school would claim that reputation has been preserved and brought up to date, there have been changes. There are more than twenty rules, all agreed by the Moot, the school's parliament, and the 300 pupils are now "expected" to attend lessons.

But Dartington Hall's prospects quickly establish what sets it apart from other schools. It is not, the prospectus declares, controlled by privileges, competition, automatic sanctions or by fear. There is no corporal punishment, and no school uniforms.

Even in the junior and middle schools, which take children aged five to thirteen pupils are given a say in day-to-day affairs through a council, and the main school has an elected pupil senate. Both

meet weekly.

While recognizing the importance of a child's academic training the school aims "to keep examinations in perspective". Outside class, pupils are free at most times to do as they please with their own time.

It is this brand of freedom that makes Dartington Hall so controversial. "It is good if you have got self-discipline", a former pupil said yesterday. "But unfortunately not all kids have it."

London tourism director resigns

Mr Peter Stevens, the former arts administrator, has resigned as director of the London Tourism Board after 18 months in the post. His resignation from the post, which carries a salary of £20,000 a year, takes effect from the end of the year. A statement from his office said he had left "in order to resume his career in television". Mr Stevens, aged 49, was not available for comment and was said to be on holiday.

He is a former television producer and was general administrator of the National Theatre from 1974 to 1979.

There is some controversy about a new chairman for the board to succeed Mrs Mary Baker. It is understood that the Greater London Council would like Mr Ilyd Harrington, its deputy leader, to be appointed to the post.

A subcommittee met yesterday to consider the appointment of a chairman and will make an announcement next Thursday.

Golden Hind replica flooded

An emergency fire tender pumped out 4,000 gallons of water to save a replica of the Golden Hind at Brixham, Devon, yesterday.

Mr John Gaudin, the manager of the ship, opened the bilges while he returned home to give flowers to his wife for their wedding anniversary. On the way, however, he was involved in a minor car accident. "By the time I got back she was flooded to a depth of six ft and the tide was rising fast," he said.

Tent theatre may be saved

The Bubble Theatre, the tented company that has visited almost every London borough in the past 11 years, may be reprieved despite a recommendation by the drama advisory panel of the Greater London Arts Association that its £152,000 grant should be discontinued.

The association's executive committee has decided to set up a working party with representatives of the company to try to find a solution before the executive's meeting next month.

Revenge attack father released

A man aged 29, who attacked a man who allegedly sexually assaulted his handicapped daughter aged eight, was released from Walton prison, Liverpool, yesterday.

The man, from Wrexham, Clwyd, who served three months for causing grievous bodily harm, said: "I would do it again. I do not regret what I did. It should have been in prison not me."

Closure threat

Caxton Hall in London, which was the scene of many society weddings, is facing closure and may be sold by Westminster City Council because it is losing money and needs nearly £400,000 for repairs. The sale price could be up to £4m.

700 rejected

About 700 Commonwealth citizens and black Britons have been refused entry to France for day-trips or short holidays recently, Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, has said in a letter.

9 million viewers

The all-night television rock marathon on BBC-2 over the Bank holiday drew nine million viewers and 16,000 telephone callers requesting their favourite videos, according to the BBC figures issued yesterday.

Asbestos to go

Breathelose, a hostel for mentally ill people in Willesden, north London, is to be temporarily cleared so that asbestos discovered in fire precaution material during a check can be removed.

Rig 'launched'

A \$60m drilling rig, the Sovereign Explorer, was officially "launched" yesterday at the Cammell Laird shipyard, Birkenhead, by Mrs Teresa Walker, the wife of the Secretary of State for Energy, Mr Peter Walker.

China to get Sinclair computers

By Bill Johnston
Electronic Correspondent

Sinclair home computers, which have made their inventor, Sir Clive Sinclair, a millionaire, are to be exported to China in kit form and assembled by local labour.

Agreements have been made with a Chinese computer manufacturer and the China Electronics Import and Export Corporation. Sinclair's managing director, Mr Nigel Searle, visited Shanghai and Peking last month.

An unspecified number of the ZX81 and Spectrum computers have been sent to China for local assembly on a trial basis.

A statement by Sinclair said: "It is hoped that if this initial trial is successful it will lead to larger quantities of Sinclair personal computers being sold in China over the next few years. Sinclair stresses however that discussions are at a preliminary stage. No details regarding assembly sites, the total cost of the venture have been finalized and will not be until the results of the trial are fully known."

In theory the Chinese market is lucrative, although the number of television sets in the country is low.

But there are 675 Chinese universities and institutes with higher education with 1,140,000 students.

Cortina check in search for girl's killer

Police investigating the Caroline Hogg murder appealed yesterday to the 686 owners in Leicestershire of blue Ford Cortina cars registered between August 1979 and December 1981 to attend police stations this weekend and next. It is a further stage in the hunt for the killer of the girl, aged five who was abducted near her Edinburgh home in July and was found dead in Leicestershire 10 days later.

On the night she disappeared a distraught girl was seen in a blue Cortina which was in a near collision on the road from Edinburgh to the Borders.

The Cortina owners will be asked to complete a questionnaire and cross-checks will be made on the national vehicle computer. Leicestershire police have chosen this method because of the pressure on detectives.

Kiss dismissal upheld

A company director, Mr Anthony Brooker, aged 49, was dismissed from his family company after he kissed an employee, Miss Karen Hemsted, aged 19, on the cheek, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

After the distressed girl was sent home, his two brothers, Thomas and David, and their uncle Philip, the managing director, decided that Mr Brooker must be dismissed from the ironmongers and builders' merchants at Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Miss Hemsted said that Mr Brooker had put his arms around her and tried to kiss her on the lips, but she turned away. The

Court tussle over £31 for arms 'Peace' minister withholds tax

From Arthur O'Sullivan, Birmingham

Birmingham, said the demand had come after he was under taxed by £70. The £31 represented a proportion of that amount.

He said: "Forty-five per cent of all income tax is spent on military preparation. This is why I am attempting to divert this percentage of my tax to overseas development."

The registrar seemed to agree with one in principle. The Inland Revenue presented their case and legally, of course, they are absolutely right and the registrar will have to find in their favour. The revenue were sympathetic to our case that we are not trying to evade taxes but to divert them.

Mr Arnold said he had served in the Royal Air Force in the ground staff in the Second World

War and had decided to become a minister after the wartime bombings. He was a missionary in Madagascar for 17 years.

Employees of the Quakers, opposed to paying for arms through income tax, are being helped by their employers to withhold part of their payments (the Press Association reports).

The Religious Society of Friends, better known as the Quakers, has agreed to hold 12 per cent of their PAYE taxes.

About 32 staff at the Quakers' London offices have asked for part of their PAYE payments to be withheld. The society has written to the Prime Minister explaining that paying for arms through taxes is inconsistent with the Quakers' opposition to war.

Lord Justice Ackner, sitting with Lord Justice O'Connor, said later that Judge Phelan had been right to regard the singer's breach of a court order made in July last year as serious. But Mr Gibbs had been "needled", by the *Daily Express* business reporter, Gerard Pearce, into making remarks about his former wife's alleged behaviour.

Mr Gibbs, who was divorced last October, has been linked romantically with the artist Divina Waterfield. It has been reported that they plan to marry.

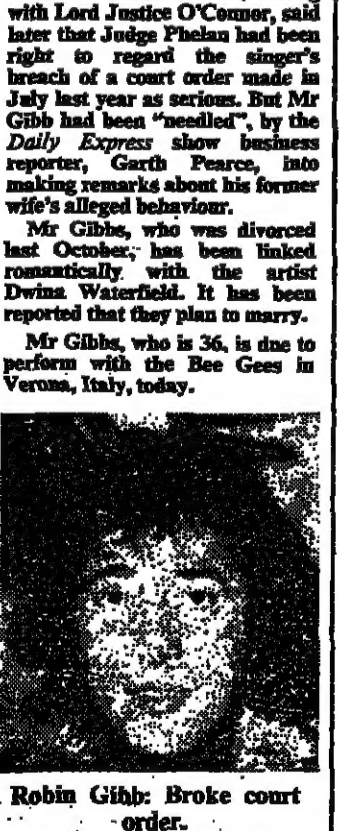
Mr Gibbs, who is 36, is due to perform with the Bee Gees in Verona, Italy, today.

Bee Gee is jailed then freed

Robin Gibbs, a member of the Bee Gees pop group, was jailed for two weeks yesterday by a divorce court judge in London - but was released several hours later after being fined £5,000 with costs by the Court of Appeal.

Judge Phelan jailed Mr Gibbs for breaking a court order not to talk to the press about his former marriage. The proceedings were brought by his former wife, Molly, aged 36.

When he was sentenced Mrs Gibbs broke down and said: "I didn't want that." The couple, who married in 1968, have two children, Spencer, aged 11, and Melissa, aged nine.



Robin Gibbs: Broke court order.

Three remanded on indecency charges

By a Staff Reporter

Three men who face seven joint charges under four Acts, five involving alleged incitement to commit sexual offences with children, were remanded until October 7 by magistrates at Bromley, London, yesterday.

Steven Adrian Smith, aged 28, of Christchurch Avenue, Harrow, north London; David Peter Brenner, aged 43, of Upper Clapton Road, east London, both unemployed, and David Joy, aged 42, a former teacher, of Russell Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire, were all granted bail under conditions.

Those are that they report daily to their local police stations, notify any change of address and surrender their passports.

Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

'Haunted' deckhand gets life for ship fire death

A seaman who started a fire which killed another crewman and destroyed a Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel four years ago, was jailed for life by the Central Criminal Court yesterday for the manslaughter of Mr Leslie Mason, aged 52 from Crewe, Cheshire, who suffocated to death in his cabin.

Derek Devine, aged 25, of Kenway Caravan Site, Turro, Cornwall, had confessed to the police because he was "haunted by his conscience and nightmares" the court was told.

However, he pleaded not guilty and wept during the trial, claiming that his confession to the police was false.

Passing sentence, Judge Argyle, QC, said that it was impossible to imagine a worse case of a deck hand destroying a ship of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary while "taking the Queen's pay and breaching his trust".

Devine was a person of unstable character and likely to commit further offences, he added.

Devine was convicted earlier of arson having caused damage worth £1m to the vessel, Hebe, in the dockyard at Gibraltar, in November, 1978.

Another crewman, Mr Jan Bala, was saved after he shut himself in the ship's refrigerator, and was rescued after several hours by firemen.

Devine had worked for the Ministry of Defence on the vessel, which had been chartered by the Royal Navy, for only three weeks.

Judge Argyle was told that Devine, who had previous convictions, had been on fire watch on the vessel. He said: "I have no doubt that he is capable of being a very dangerous man."

The judge said that medical reports showed a personality disorder but no mental illness.

Mr Robert Harman, QC, for the defence, said that after starting the fire Devine helped to rescue another crewman.

Brewers to decide soon on stadium plan

By John Witherow and Andrew Cornes

Whitbread & Co., one of Britain's largest brewers, will decide in the next few weeks whether to fund the £20m development of a national indoor sports stadium at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The stadium would be called the Whitbread National Indoor Stadium.

Whitbread and its partners in the venture, the Milton Keynes Development Corporation and Luton Town Football Club, would aim to float a new company, formed to run the stadium, on the stock market in the next two years.

Mr David Evans, a director of Luton Town Football Club and the millionaire chairman of Brengreen Holdings, the cleaning company, has confirmed details of the scheme which would provide a new home for Luton Town and also a sports complex in the American style. The stadium would include an artificial playing surface, ice skating rink, cinema and other leisure facilities. The football club,

which is being forced by a road development scheme to move from its present ground at Kenilworth Road, would rent the stadium from the new holding company on a match-by-match basis.

The scheme has been found to be sound after independent examinations by Coopers & Lybrand Associates, the accountancy and consultancy firm, and Picking-Torkelson Partnership, a firm of international recreation and leisure consultants.

A spokesman for the Whitbread south-eastern operations, Mr David Jones, said yesterday that he could not comment on the proposals at this stage. The development corporation confirmed that it was talking to a number of national brewers, but said no decision had been taken. "No brewery is committed to the stadium and the stadium is not committed to a brewery", he added.

However, Mr Evans said that a final decision would be taken in the next "four weeks". That would

MoD denies dumping nuclear submarine

By John Witherow and David Felton

The Ministry of Defence denied a report yesterday that it had deliberately sunk either an obsolete nuclear submarine or a submarine containing nuclear waste off the Cornish coast.

The allegation was made at the TUC conference at Blackpool by Mr James Slater, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, who has been an outspoken critic of the Government's dumping of nuclear waste.

He told delegates that he had a document which detailed the sinking of a submarine in 82 metres some 13 miles off Falmouth. "We believe it is a nuclear submarine whose wastes will be active for thousands of years to come," he said.

The ministry said the claim was absolute nonsense and confirmed that an outdated diesel-electric submarine, HMS Narwhal, had been sunk in that position last month. The submarine was to be used for training by Navy divers and all oil and acids had been removed beforehand. It contained no nuclear waste.

Dumping boycott, page 4

Child burnt in bonfire petrol accident

A girl aged 18 months was in a specialist burns unit yesterday after being accidentally sprayed with petrol when her father was lighting a bonfire.

Mr Paul Ross was using the petrol to light the fire in the back garden at the family's home in Redhill, Surrey. His daughter Sarah was standing behind him.

Flames caught the arm with which he was holding the petrol can and he tried to throw it away. Petrol hit the girl and she was engulfed in fire and severely burnt.

Both were taken to hospital in Redhill. The girl was transferred to the burns unit at Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead, where her condition was later said to be stable.

The police said: "The family are very distressed. It was a very unfortunate accident."

Few Falklands troops cracked under strain

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Psychiatric disorders among troops from both sides in the Falklands campaign were remarkably low, British and Argentine doctors have told the World Congress of Psychiatry.

Only 21 of the British wounded, 3.6 per cent, suffered from mental illness, and only 1.5 per cent from a combat reaction. Another eight were treated for depression, and three for alcoholism, stress-induced dizziness and extreme pain reaction.

The Argentines reported similar figures; only 3 per cent of their casualties suffered from psychiatric disorders. Both the British and Argentine doctors had expected more cases because of previous experience of war casualties. Dr Carlos Collazo, psychiatric adviser to the Argentine army, told the congress that he had found it difficult to believe the rate was so low until he learnt that the British experience had been similar.

Doctors on both sides experienced difficulties in working during the conflict, according to a report of the congress in *BMA News Review*. Surgeon Commander Morgan O'Connell, consultant psychiatrist at the Royal Naval Hospital, Gosport, who sailed with the task force, said the news of "a shrink" on board ship was greeted with the same enthusiasm as an accompanying albatross would have been.

Dr O'Connell had to adopt a pseudonym when transferring patients on board ships.

Families of servicemen killed in the Falklands campaign plan a return trip to the islands after their pilgrimage to the graves last April.

The Falklands Families Association, which was formed during the voyage on the Cunard Countess and includes 178 families, hopes to return in 1986 as the first charter flight to arrive at the new Port Stanley airfield.

Death on canal

Mr George Preston, aged 54, of Assarts Road, Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, was killed after being hit by the arm of a swing bridge on the Shropshire Union Canal at Whixall, Shropshire.

TUC BLACKPOOL 1983 • The media • Nuclear waste

'Featherlike Press Council' attacked

The general Council was urged to sever all links with the Press Council, which Mr. Aidan White of the National Union of Journalists, said was powerless. It rebukes newspapers were "featherlike hits on the wire".

Mr. White said that in the past 30 years the Press Council had presided over an astonishing decline in journalistic standards and public confidence in the press.

As to chequered journalism, every editor and every reporter knew the Press Council's report on the Yorkshire ripper case would not change a thing. News was no longer public property. It had become a marketable commodity.

Newspaper proprietors had sacrificed all sense of decency in order to sell their papers. "It is the Murdoch mentality at work. 'Bingo, sex and all manner of editorial perversions have become acceptable in the fight for sales', Mr. White said.

Mr. White said the real issue, how information was being abused in the hunt for quick profits, was not being examined by the Press Council.

An amendment to delete the section of the NUJ motion calling for a severing of links with the Press Council was carried. Moving it, Mr. Ken Cameron, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, said that without the Press Council there would be nowhere for people with complaints against the press to go.

The amended motion was approved. Full support for the 'alternative press', for example, *Tribune*, *Morning Star* and *Labour Weekly*, in view of the effect of the media upon the electorate during the election campaign was sought in a motion put forward by Mr. Jim Craigie, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (Engineering Section).

He criticized what he described as the scurrilous behaviour of the so-called popular press "before, during and after the general election". Mr. Mossy Evans, replying for the general council, said that the TUC policy to endorse individual newspapers, as proposed, it would not be consistent with the independent status of the TUC to support party political propaganda. The motion was lost on a show of hands.



Fraternal farewell: Delegates link arms for the singing end to the congress

Boycott of nuclear dumping at sea

The dumping of nuclear waste at sea was condemned by Mr. Jim Slater, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, when he moved a motion calling on the TUC General Council to urge other unions to support the boycott of nuclear waste dumping at sea imposed by the transport unions.

The motion criticized the irresponsibility of using the world's oceans as dumping grounds for nuclear waste and expressed grave concern at the incalculable harmful consequences which could result from such action. It was carried by 7,150,000 votes to 2,764,000.

Cash study ordered on possible launch of labour newspaper

Reports by Alan Wood, Gordon Wellman and Stephen Goodwin

The TUC General Council was charged at the final session of congress yesterday to investigate how the movement could best find the finance needed to launch and sustain a newspaper sympathetic to the labour movement.

A report by Lord McCarthy and a group of experts concluded that 25/7m of initial funds would be needed. Mr. Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union and chairman of the TUC media committee, said the general council was proposing to set up a small committee to consider the availability of funds.

The final morning's session was dominated by criticism of the media and particularly the popular tabloid press and Mr. Eric Clarke, Scottish president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) launched a

bitter assault on what he called the week's character assassination of the media of Mr. Arthur Scargill, the NUM president. He also condemned harassment of Mrs. Scargill. But it ended in a better mood, with the traditional vote of thanks to the press to which Mr. David Felton, labour correspondent of *The Times* and this year's chairman of industrial correspondents, replied.

Mr. Evans said that from the so-called winter of discontent to the recent general election the labour movement had experienced four years of bias, trivialization and in some cases harassment from the moguls of Fleet Street. It knew it would continue unabated.

The unions did not complain just because the political imbalance of newspapers was a threat to the working of their democracy although it was. They complained

also because the standards of British newspaper journalism, particularly the popular variety, seemed to have fallen to such deplorable levels, showing a contempt for the public's intelligence and a failure of both will and ability to fulfil the true role of a newspaper, to entertain, to inform and to scrutinize.

The general council was most encouraged by the findings of Lord McCarthy's team and it was now for it to examine whether - and if so how best - it could find the finance needed to run a newspaper.

No decisions would be made until the new committee had fully consulted all affiliated unions and reported back to the general council. If it was concluded that the necessary finance would not be forthcoming from the unions.

Mr. Harry Conroy, of the National Union of Journalists, said that while the McCarthy report seemed to think a newspaper could be produced by 40 journalists, Mr. Rupert Murdoch needed two hundred to produce *The Sun*. At a conservative estimate, he said, it would need £1.5m just to pay for the journalists on a new newspaper and that was before the NUJ started negotiating.

And if there were complaints about bias in the movement succeeded in bringing out a paper, other papers would say: "If you are doing it why can't we?" If the combined forces of million circulations of the *Daily Mirror* and *Daily Record* which supported Labour could not affect the result of the election, a newspaper with 300,000 circulation would have no effect.

Mr. Ross Pritchard, of the National Graphical Association (1982), said that while he agreed the existing national press was appalling and trivial, a new national paper supporting the Labour movement with a circulation of around 300,000 would not alter the position. The attempt to compete would be futile. The movement should develop the political struggle to wrest control from the monopolies that ran the media.

The council's proposal for a committee was approved.

Restraint on cable TV sought

The Government was interested in the early introduction of cable television because of the profits to be made by business, Mr. John Gray, of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, told congress.

Moving a motion expressing TUC determination to ensure that development of cable television should not detract from the high standards and accountability of British broadcasting, Mr. Gray said the Government wanted facilities for telly-banking and telly-shopping.

By next January the first homes would be receiving cable programmes. By June there would be a sort of cable authority to decide who most deserved a cable franchise.

"The Government is in a great hurry and is developing the free market approach. It cannot wait until there has been a proper consideration, consultation and agreement", Mr. Gray said. Even the Independent Broadcasting Authority has objected to the Government's approach.

The motion, carried on a show of hands, called on the Government to require by law that cable television should not detract from the high standards and accountability of British broadcasting. Mr. Gray said the Government wanted facilities for telly-banking and telly-shopping.

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Fight looms over missile contract

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence faces a bitter struggle over its intention to order a sea-skimming missile for the Royal Navy.

Five companies have been invited to tender for the order which will be worth several hundred million pounds.

This contest comes about six weeks after the Government finally decided on the choice of an anti-air missile for the Royal Air Force. That decision took several months after the issue reached ministerial level, and was resolved after much lobbying in favour of the Alamo missile to be produced by British Aerospace and Marconi.

The lobbying for the missile for the Royal Navy has already begun with the Italian company, Oto Melara putting forward its Otomat missile.

The Otomat has a range of 100 miles at very near the speed of sound. The missile, which has been developed in cooperation with the French company, Matra, would be offered in a version which made use of both Marconi and Plessey technology and involved several other British companies, with 65 per cent of the work being done in Britain.

The Italians are offering agreements so that if the order were placed with them the total value of the work done in Italy would be offset by Italian orders placed with British industry. One bit of bait which is being dangled is the possibility of it leading to Italy buying 12 British Sea Harrier jump jet aircraft.

The other, and in some cases probably more favoured contenders are believed to be a ship-launched version of the British Aerospace Sea Eagle, the McDonnell Douglas Harpoon, the French Exocet, and a French Matra missile.

Media attacks on Scargill denounced

The character assassination by the media of certain people, and particularly Mr. Arthur Scargill, was ridiculous, Mr. Eric Clarke, Scottish president of the Scottish National Union of Mineworkers said.

"I am disgusted when I see photographs of a so-called situation, peering into his attacks case because he has a certain cosmetic accoutrement in it. What the hell has that to do with the trade union movement?"

The NUM hoped that unions within the media would join with the TUC in eradicating this filth. There was the harassment of people's families, Mr. Scargill's wife was knocked up at 12 o'clock on Wednesday night, a person from the *Daily Mail* invaded her office the next day, demanding an interview, not asking for one.

Such people were carrying out the dirty work of Rupert Murdoch and others because Mr. Scargill and many others were campaigning against the capitalist system, war mongers, Mrs. Thatcher and the rest. That was why he was being attacked.

He wanted the TUC to have a straight talk with some members of the media unions to eradicate this nonsense which was aimed at alienating trade union leaders from their members.

Mr. David Felton of *The Times* and chairman of the labour and industrial correspondents group, replied to a vote of thanks to the press, saying that if it presumed to report and comment on the affairs of the labour movement, there was every justification for complaint if it got it wrong.

"As an industrial group we do our best to ensure our reporting is accurate", he said.

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Death inquiry: Mr. Amadeo Sano, counsel to the Aquino investigation, displaying to reporters a doll showing where the 16 bullet wounds are alleged to have been.

Marcos goes on defensive

From Keith Dalton, Manila

President Ferdinand Marcos has been fighting a defensive battle since the assassination of the Philippine opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, which still has the country boiling with political speculation.

In the past few days he has assured worried bankers and businessmen that the economy is on the rebound and that the military is not about to stage a coup.

To leading lawyers from 17 Asian and Pacific countries attending a conference in Manila he has given guarantees that the country is still politically stable.

And to his political colleagues he has promised that if his health permits he will seek another six years in office when his term expires in 1987.

No single act in recent years has so shaken the Marcos Government and transfixed Filipinos as the killing of Aquino minutes after he arrived home from three years' self-exile in the United States to lead a peaceful revolution against the 12-year Marcos regime.

In a speech yesterday Mr. Marcos said: "It is plainly despicable and irrational to conclude from this senseless act of violence that our country has lost its balance and stability, that it has lost its sense of



President Marcos: Rocked by Aquino's assassination

direction; that the affairs of state have gone out of control." It was an address, read for him, to delegates attending the Law Association for Asia and the Western Pacific (Lawasia).

The Aquino assassination and its aftermath is a political test of strength for President Marcos, who is determined to stay at the helm.

After ignoring for weeks opposition calls for him to resign, he told three visiting Japanese newspaper editors on Thursday that, far from stepping down, he was prepared to seek a new six-

year term in the 1987 presidential election. This would "stop the rivalries and quarrels" within the party about his possible successor, he said.

The person generally considered to be the most likely successor is his wife, Imelda, who as Governor of Metropolitan Manila and Human Settlements Minister, is considered the second most powerful person in the country.

However, Mrs. Marcos told the Japanese correspondents that she was considering resigning from government next year to become the chief lobbyist for the country's private business sector.

At home Mr. Marcos has to convince a sceptical public that the government has nothing to do with the killing of his archrival while abroad, questions have been raised about the country's political stability and the possible role of the armed forces in the immediate post-Marcos period.

In addition nervous international financiers and bankers want the strongest assurances that their investments are safe. Economic programmes are "on the right track" and talk of a military takeover is "utterly erroneous", Mr. Marcos told more than 200 local and foreign bankers and businessmen who on Tuesday were called to the presidential palace.

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Dust bowl grips US corn belt

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

All across the American corn belt thousands of farmers are gloomily surveying their burnt land and shrivelled crops. They are suffering one of the worst droughts since the dust bowl years of the 1930s.

The drought affects a broad swathe of the country from Virginia, through Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Texas. Many parched districts have been declared disaster areas, crops have been written off and farmers are seeking government loans to save them from ruin.

The weeks of relentless sunshine have caused damage to crops estimated at nearly \$5 billion.

Illinois, in the heart of the corn belt, has lost half of its corn crop. Elsewhere soya bean, peanut and tobacco yields are all reduced.

Paradoxically, there are also smiling faces among the many glum ones in the country's farming community of 2,400,000. Some farmers have had enough rain to grow reasonable crops, and with prices rising steadily they expect to do well. Many are holding on to their harvests, waiting for prices to rise even more.

Meanwhile, thousands of farmers have been saved from the worst effects of the drought because they took up the Government's offer to do nothing. In an effort to reduce the country's huge reserves of grain and increase prices, the Government this year asked farmers to let part of their land lie fallow, in return for which they are paid in grain from the reserves.

This payment in kind (PIK) programme and the drought are expected to reduce the 1983 corn harvest 4.5 billion bushels, compared with the record 1982 harvest of 8.4 billion.

The happiest farmers are those who joined the PIK programme, took their least productive land out of production, planted their best land and escaped the worst of the drought. They have corn on their land and corn coming in from the government stores which they can sell at market prices.

The losers are those who did not join the PIK scheme, planted their fields and were devastated by the dry weather.

While some farmers are pleased with PIK, the programme is a case of dismay in the Reagan Administration, which badly wants to cut government spending. PIK was meant to invigorate agriculture while costing the taxpayers little, but in practice it is costing at least \$7 billion.

This is on top of the \$15 billion being paid in farm price support programmes, a sum five times greater than the support paid by the Government only three years ago.

Pope rekindles spiritual glories of Vienna

From John Earle, Rome

Vienna will, spiritually, again become the capital of the Habsburg empire when the Pope arrives today on a four-day visit to the Republic of Austria, his twentieth foreign trip during his five-year reign.

His first engagement will be to drive to a "European Vespers" in the Heldenplatz (Heroes Square) in front of the Hofburg Palace, once the residence of the emperors.

The Pope will be joined during his visit by cardinals from his native Poland, from Hungary, East Germany and Yugoslavia, but not from Czechoslovakia. According to reports from Vienna, the Patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church, has also announced his intention of being present.

The Austrian Government will be anxious to ensure that the visit, during which the Pope will make eight speeches, does not carry too wide a message for Eastern Europe.

A tightening economic squeeze enforced by South Africa has compelled Lesotho to agree to United Nations arrangements to resettle political refugees who are living there elsewhere in southern Africa.

The first batch of about 22 South African exiles belonging to the banned African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress is expected to be flown to Maputo, in Mozambique, today.

Others have been told by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Maseru to be ready to leave Lesotho as soon as possible. It is expected they will be flown out by the end of September.

Mr. Poul Schluter, Conservative Prime Minister, had threatened his four-party government would resign unless the legislation was passed at yesterday's extraordinary summer session.

The Bill, which cuts central government grants to local authorities by £100m annually over the next two years, also freezes rates, increases tax-free allowances and cuts tax on pensions.

The risk of early Danish general elections subsided after the Folketing (Parliament) yesterday narrowly passed a package of cuts on local authority grants presented by the year-old Conservative-Liberal minority coalition.

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This week the first group of

Pope rekindles spiritual glories of Vienna

From John Earle, Rome

Vienna will, spiritually, again become the capital of the Habsburg empire when the Pope arrives today on a four-day visit to the Republic of Austria, his twentieth foreign trip during his five-year reign.

His first engagement will be to drive to a "European Vespers" in the Heldenplatz (Heroes Square) in front of the Hofburg Palace, once the residence of the emperors.

The Pope will be joined during his visit by cardinals from his native Poland, from Hungary, East Germany and Yugoslavia, but not from Czechoslovakia. According to reports from Vienna, the Patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church, has also announced his intention of being present.

The Austrian Government will be anxious to ensure that the visit, during which the Pope will make eight speeches, does not carry too wide a message for Eastern Europe.

A tightening economic squeeze enforced by South Africa has compelled Lesotho to agree to United Nations arrangements to resettle political refugees who are living there elsewhere in southern Africa.

The first batch of about 22 South African exiles belonging to the banned African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress is expected to be flown to Maputo, in Mozambique, today.

Others have been told by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Maseru to be ready to leave Lesotho as soon as possible. It is expected they will be flown out by the end of September.

Mr. Poul Schluter, Conservative Prime Minister, had threatened his four-party government would resign unless the legislation was passed at yesterday's extraordinary summer session.

The Bill, which cuts central government grants to local authorities by £100m annually over the next two years, also freezes rates, increases tax-free allowances and cuts tax on pensions.

This week the first group of

The risk of early Danish general elections subsided after the Folketing (Parliament) yesterday narrowly passed a package of cuts on local authority grants presented by the year-old Conservative-Liberal minority coalition.

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This week the first group of

Rebirth of racism hits right in France

From Diana Goldie, Paris

The run-off tomorrow in the local by-elections in Dreux, to the west of Paris, has developed into an event of national importance with blatantly racist overtones. The local right-wing opposition parties have formed an alliance with the National Front, which polled a startling 17 per cent of the vote in the first round last Sunday.

The decision of M. Jean Hieut, Gaullist leader of the local RDP-UDF coalition, to accept the National Front onto his list, has provoked a public outcry and has caused a serious rift among the opposition parties at a national level.

Despite its earlier refusal to form an alliance with any extreme-right party during the municipal elections last March, the Gaullist RPR party has now come out in firm support of the alliance in Dreux. While insisting on the party's repudiation of all forms of racism, M. Bernard Pons, the RPR national secretary, argued that the opposition's overriding object must be to oust the local ruling Socialist-Communist coalition in Dreux.

The National Party of the Centre des Démocrates Sociaux (CDS), one of the main constituents of the UDF, has refused to have anything to do with the National Front in Dreux, however, explaining that it "would never support xenophobic sentiments or acts which are contrary to the humanist principles which guide its political actions".

Mme Simone Vell, former president of the European Parliament and one of the most popular leading opposition figures, though not attached to any particular party, dropped a bombshell when she declared on television earlier this week that she would abstain if she were voting in the Dreux elections, rather than vote for a party of the extreme right.

M. Olivier Stirn, former minister under President Giscard d'Estaing and a candidate for the presidency of the tiny Radical Party, also said that he would feel bound to abstain.

Immigrants form 23 per cent of the 35,000 inhabitants of the industrial town of Dreux, and M. Jean-Pierre Sturbols, the secretary general of the National Front, has been successfully playing on the indigenous French population's latent racist fears at a time of economic crisis and rising unemployment.

A national opinion poll earlier this week showed that a worrying 51 per cent of French people thought the best way to fight unemployment was to "send the immigrants back home". That message has been the central theme of M. Stirn's campaign, though he and his party deny that they are either racist or extreme right.

The Socialist-Communist alliance, which at present holds the town hall by just eight votes, is very worried about its chances on Sunday, having polled only 41 per cent of the vote in the first round last Sunday. Its supporters are desperately trying to rally the troops.

Last night, a silent "Assembly for Democracy" was held in Dreux, with M. Michel Rocard, Minister for Agriculture and the "darling" of the left, as one of the star attractions. It followed an appeal by some 40 intellectuals and personalities from the world of show business, such as Yves Montand, Cote-Gravas, and Simone Signoret, for a united stand against what they saw as the "renewance of racism" in Dreux.

The appeal was originally thought to be a call for support of the left in Dreux. However, in an extraordinary vehement outburst during a radio interview yesterday, Yves Montand, for one made it clear he felt almost as strongly about the "defects and monstrosities" of the left as about the racism of the extreme right. He too called on voters to abstain.

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More air raids in Central America

Planes blast Nicaragua port

Managua, (AFP, AP, Reuters). — The port of Corinto, on Nicaragua's Pacific coast, came under air attack early yesterday, the Defence Ministry announced here.

First reports said a fuel depot in the port had been hit, but there were no immediate reports of casualties, nor details on the number or type of aircraft involved in the attack.

Corinto is 109 miles northwest of the capital. The aircraft appeared to come from neighbouring Honduras, a spokesman said.

On Thursday two light aircraft of an anti-Sandinista guerrilla organization attacked Managua and its airport.

Earlier, oil tanks and a refinery at Puerto Sandino had been sabotaged.

Nicaragua has put its air defences on maximum alert. Today more than ever we must be on the alert against counter-revolutionary attacks," said Humberto Ortega, Defence Minister, said. Anti-aircraft units throughout the country and air force headquarters were ready to go into action.

In another incident on Thursday, Honduran aircraft and three coastguard vessels made a "serious" attack on two Sandinista Navy patrol boats off the Caribbean coast, the Foreign Ministry said.

The Honduran ships illegally entered Nicaraguan waters to launch a surprise attack off the Bismutha lagoon when the two Nicaraguan patrol boats were chasing a Honduran "pirate" fishing boat, the ministry said.

● PANAMA CITY: Thursday's attack on Managua represents a



Father d'Escoto: Target for rebel air attack

were wounded, but there were no deaths except the pilots.

The dead man, Sebastian Muller and Agustin Roman, were Miskito Indians from Nicaragua's Caribbean coast. The ARDE communiqué described them as "ex-officials of the Sandinista Air Force" who "were incorporated in our struggle for liberation".

The attack was aimed at "military installations and planes" and at "the centre of Soviet communications" in a Managua suburb.

Nicaraguan officials reported that the aircraft attempted to hit, but missed, the house of Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Foreign Minister.

According to Costa Rican and anti-Sandinista sources, the two Cessnas were part of ARDE's fleet of about eight aircraft which, for several months, have been daily flying arms and personnel from Pava, the small-aircraft airport outside San José.

An ARDE source said the two Cessnas left Pava last Friday and flew to the small Nicaraguan town of San Juan del Sur, near the Costa Rican border.

There the pilots "picked up what they needed", presumably the 500lb of industrial explosives which Nicaragua says was used in the attack. They flew out on their mission early on Thursday morning.

Señor Pastora claims to have gained control of San Juan del Sur in his latest offensive, launched about 10 days ago.

Since ARDE began its guerrilla campaign on May 1, it has been promising attacks against Managua and other cities. Until now its rather ineffectual activities have

been concentrated in the isolated, sparsely-populated border region.

If Father d'Escoto was a target in Thursday's attack, ARDE's intelligence was extremely poor. The Nicaraguan minister is here in Panama, attending a well-publicized meeting of the Conadara Group, which is attempting to negotiate peaceful solutions to conflicts in the region.

He said the attack was a "criminal act, condemnable from every perspective". However, he blamed the US and not ARDE or Costa Rica.

The attack "only served to accentuate the need to go ahead seriously with the process of looking for peace through dialogue and negotiations".

● TEGUCIGALPA: Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, has urged tighter military cooperation among conservative states in Central America to fight left-wing insurgents (Reuters reports).

He made the call at the end of a three-nation tour of Central America, the first by a US Defence Secretary, before returning to Washington.

● GUATEMALA CITY: The Guatemalan Government yesterday denied that the decaying body of a pregnant woman found on Thursday night in a city suburb is that of Señora Martha Rios, sister of the former president, General Efraín Ríos Montt (AFP reports).

Señora Rios was kidnapped, apparently by anti-government guerrillas, on June 25. The group demanded publication of a manifesto but their demand was rejected by the Government.



Sea trials: Indian cosmonauts Rakesh Sharma (left) and Ravish Malhotra have finished training at the Yuri Gagarin centre with Soviet colleagues in preparation for a planned joint space flight.

Zia's first hint of an earlier election

Karachi (Reuters) — General Zia, Pakistan's military ruler, has hinted he might compromise with the opposition and call general elections earlier than the promised March, 1985, date.

In the first hint of a policy shift President Zia, speaking in the Punjab capital of Lahore on Thursday night, said elections could be held much earlier, but did not give a date.

Opposition sources said General Zia seemed to be trying to undermine the civil disobedience campaign launched two days after he announced his controversial election plan on August 12, by appearing responsive to demands for a quicker return to civilian rule.

But a radical departure could make him appear weak and might even encourage more protests, they said.

In an earlier speech in Jacobabad in Sindh Province, General Zia repeated his view that Western democracy was not suitable for Pakistan and said he wanted Islamic democracy. Islam was built on the concept of a unified Muslim nation and therefore did not allow opposition parties, he said.

Meanwhile the first serious clash in Lahore broke out between protesters and police on Thursday night when a large crowd threw rocks at two tanks.

The sources said police seized several hundred copies of an appeal issued by the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) two weeks ago in the name of its chairman, Mrs Musrat Bhutto, widow of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Chile's opposition on the streets

Police kick and club Santiago detainees

Santiago (AFP, AP). — Two people were killed, more than 40 injured and 235 arrested in Chile on Thursday in the fifth national day of protest against the military regime, officials said here.

A policeman killed a woman street vendor apparently accidentally, in Valparaiso. Men in a car, believed to be riot police, shot a young man in the Victoria neighbourhood of this capital.

In the slums on Santiago's outskirts, demonstrators built street barricades, lit fires, and chanted slogans against President Augusto Pinochet.

People "raided" cooking pots and smashed car bumpers throughout the capital last night, as opposition leaders had requested.

Yet Señor Sergio Onofre Jarpa, the Interior Minister, said "the situation was normal" because "the people needed Government appeals and there were fewer fires and barricades".

than during the previous four protest days since last May.

A carnival atmosphere prevailed in the troubled neighbourhoods, except when police swept through firing tear gas and occasionally bullets. The police were generally more restrained than in the protest last month, when 31 civilians were killed.

However, reporters saw scores of prisoners clubbed and kicked on the floor of police buses after political opposition figures led 1,000 marchers to a peaceful sit-in at a city square.

"We gathered in a public place for a simple act of peaceful protest, to sit in a place, and we were mistreated by security forces that acted in the most brutal way," said Señor Gabriel Valdés, president of the five-party opposition Democratic Alliance, who was tear-gassed and doused with a police water cannon.

Debts threaten Pinochet after decade in power

From Florencia Varas, Santiago

The history of the Chilean military regime, which completes 10 years in power tomorrow, is fundamentally the story of the personal ambition of one man, General Augusto Pinochet. It was he who inspired the 1973 coup with the intention of forming a rotating government of the commanders of the four branches of the armed forces, which would then return power to civilians in a period of no less than four years.

But from December 1974, when General Pinochet decided to get himself elected President of the Republic, a personal and authoritarian Government was formed, with the active and efficient participation of the intelligence services which accused and jailed, exiled or relegated, whatever dissident voice was heard.

The military regime, helped by a doctrine of national security and an ultra-liberal economic model, shut Parliament, outlawed political parties, pulverized labour unions and professional organizations, stimulated private business which borrowed heavily, and completely opened the country to foreign investment.

By September 11, 1980, the Pinochet regime was at the height of power. Two thirds of the electorate approved a new constitution giving General Pinochet powers never before enjoyed by a Chilean president.

The new constitution also extended his term in office until 1989, at which time he could, however, be re-elected.

This development coincided with the economic boom which the regime's supporters began to call "the Chilean miracle" and whose slogan became: "Today all is well. Tomorrow will be better."

All types of imported goods were enjoyed by the middle classes. Chilean supermarkets were filled with milk from Holland, French cheeses and wine, colour televisions, clothes

from Brazil, toys and games from Taiwan and Japanese motor-cars.

But the miracle tore itself apart. By the end of 1982, more than one million people were unemployed. Competition with imported goods finished industry at home. The peso was devalued and the accumulated debts from boom borrowing consequently doubled in value. Business started to go bankrupt.

Today the country owes \$21,000m (£14,000m) to international banks, according to official figures, and the real amount could be as high as \$30,000m. This makes Chile the largest per capita world debtor.

The economic crisis of late 1982 quickly became political. The opposition began to build its forces, to demand elections and to organize the protests which began in May this year demanding President Pinochet's resignation. The outlawed Communist Party, after 10 years of clandestine work, slowly began to appear publicly.

The protests of May and June in upper-class neighbourhoods of Santiago spread to working class areas in July and August, and in September the Communists, socialists and Revolutionary Left parties took over from the centre-right the organization of the protests.

This shift pushed the Christian Democrats and the right to accept the dialogue offered with Señor Onofre Jarpa, the Interior Minister, in hopes of obtaining by less radical means quicker progress toward democracy.

The Government, while refusing to agree that General Pinochet should resign, did give in to minor opposition demands and allowed the slow return of exiles and democratic politicians from abroad.

Nevertheless, the political opening seems to have come too late. The expectations of the opposition are no longer just a face-lift for the dictatorship. They hope for its end.

Western press pilloried

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

The Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa launched a scathing attack on European press coverage of Latin America when he addressed an "international journalists' conference" this week in Cartagena, Colombia.

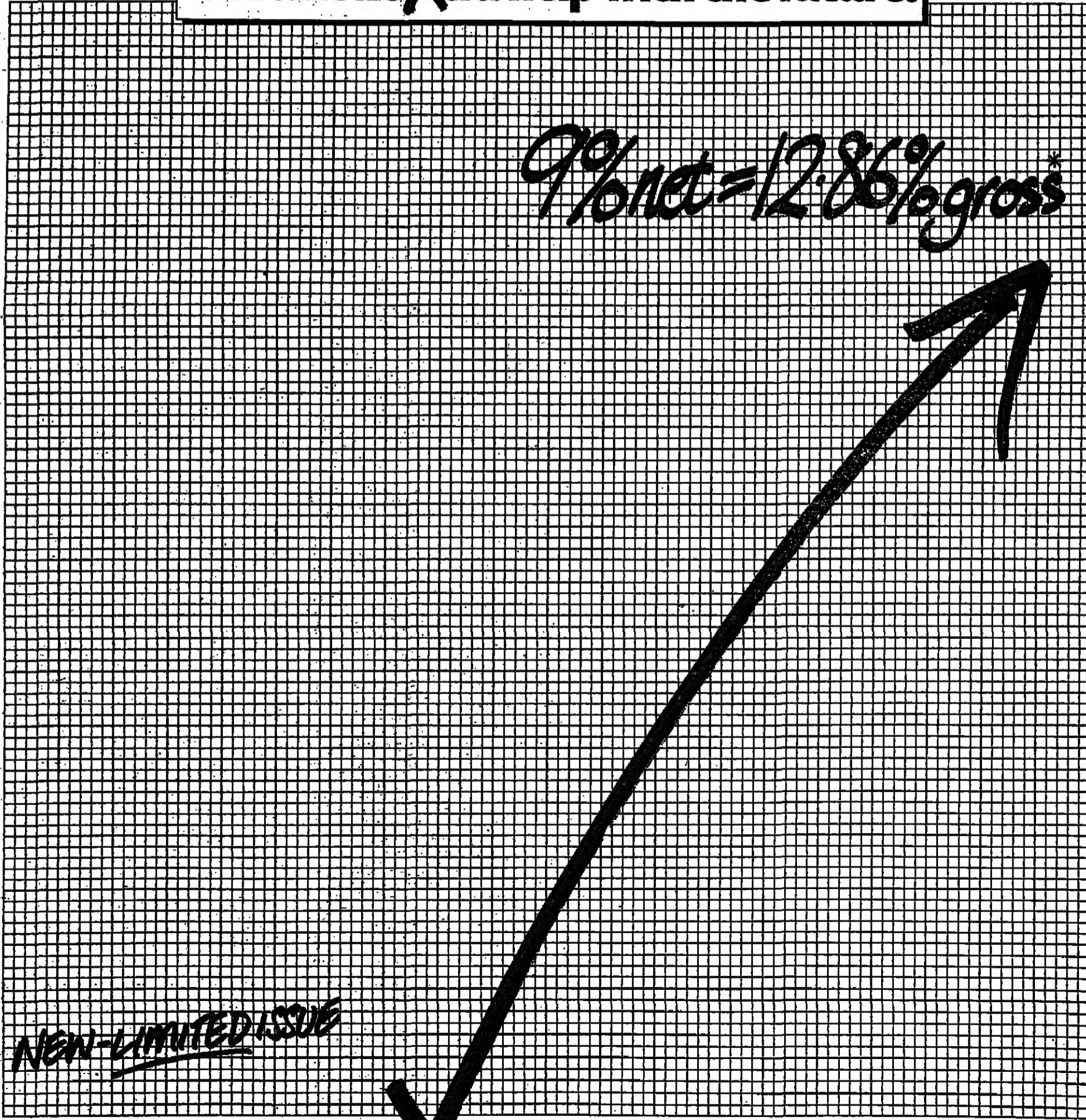
In particular, he singled out The Times, Le Monde and the Spanish newspaper El País in his charges that the Western media treats Latin America in negative and distorted terms, frequently publishes material about it without verifying the facts, and is inherently unsympathetic to the region's struggle for democracy.

and as uncivilized, basically inept for the establishment of real democracy.

"It seems that what is good for the Western democracies — an open society — is not good for Latin America, in which it is cheerfully presumed that the best for us would be revolution, concentration camps and alignment with the Soviet Union."

As a result, Señor Vargas Llosa said, Latin America's fight for freedom would have to be waged not only against the forces of imperialism and totalitarianism, but also against the "enmity and hostility of many Western democracies".

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Two Air Force officers freed but five still held in Zimbabwe jail

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Two of the six senior Zimbabwe Air Force officers acquitted of sabotage and then re-detained were freed today after having been declared undesirable residents. They were being put on a flight out of Harare last night, leaving five colleagues behind in prison.

A Government statement said it had been decided to release Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater and Air Commodore Philip Pile soon after their acquittal 11 days ago.

Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, the Minister of Home Affairs, said they had not been freed earlier because of "irrelevant stances and tantrums taken by the officers and their lawyers".

The statement made no mention of the fate of four other officers acquitted by the High Court, or of a seventh airman who has been in detention for 13 months, although never brought to trial.

Relief at the release of the two men has been tempered by the fact that the officers have been divided, and that the second

group are still in custody. "I have very mixed feelings," said Mrs Elizabeth Pile as she packed a suitcase for her husband.

"We have been here for most of our lives and have loved it. Also you feel guilty because others cannot go yet."

Tonight Mrs Pile will send her two sons Christopher, aged 14, and Nicholas, aged 9, off to join their father in London, where he was Zimbabwe's air attaché for a year after independence. She expects to spend a few more days clearing up family business before flying to Britain herself.

Mrs Jane Slater will also remain in Zimbabwe to sell up family effects before joining her husband.

Mrs Paddy Briscoe, whose husband, Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, remains in Chikurubi maximum security prison, said: "The general feeling (among the wives) is that at least there is some movement."

The delicacy of the situation was underlined by the refusal of the airman's lawyers to discuss

the case further with journalists and their advice to Air Vice-Marshal Slater and Air Commodore Pile to remain silent abroad.

The remaining airman are Wing Commander Briscoe, Wing Commander John Cox, Air Lieutenant Barlingford Lloyd, Air Lieutenant Neville Weir and Air Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker.

Air Lieutenant Lewis-Walker, the seventh officer in the case who has never been brought to trial, was arrested two days after the sabotage of a dozen fighter aircraft at Harare in July 1982. Officers' immunity if he gave state's evidence he refused. The Attorney-General's department has said publicly it had no evidence against him on which to proceed with a prosecution, but he remains detained under the emergency powers.

Last night his father, Mr Jack Lewis-Walker said: "We have become used to waiting. We believe the trial of the other officers showed the fairness of the judiciary and are confident that when Nigel finally comes before a review tribunal (as required by the emergency powers) it will conclude there is absolutely no case against him too."

The announcement that Air Vice-Marshal Slater and Air Commodore Pile were being freed came as a complete surprise. Mrs Pile was informed less than 24 hours before his departure.

The section of the Emergency Powers Act under which they were declared undesirable residents was introduced in September 1980 to prevent Lieutenant General Peter Walker, then head of the joint high command who had provoked government ire in a BBC interview, from returning to the country.

● LONDON: The Foreign Office commented: "We are naturally glad to hear of the Zimbabwe Government's decision to release some of the acquitted officers. We are now looking for the early release of the others." (Henry Stanhope writes).

The Foreign Office is keeping in close touch with the Zimbabwe authorities at all levels.



The lucky two: Air Commodore Pile (left) and Air Vice-Marshal Slater, released yesterday

140 mph typhoon kills six

Hongkong (AP) - Typhoon Ellen blew itself out across South China last night after killing at least six people and paralyzing land, air and sea traffic in Hongkong.

At its height the typhoon, with winds of 140mph had brought Hongkong to a standstill. Among the dead were a senior fire department officer and a seven-year-old girl.

Nearly 300 people were injured, many of them from flying glass. The typhoon also caused havoc in the neighbouring Portuguese colony of Macao, where 15 people were missing after about 30 fishing boats capsized in the harbour.

Ex-Premier deported

Bridgeport (AFP) - Sir Eric Gairy, the former Grenada Prime Minister, has been deported by the Barbados Government. Sir Eric, who was placed on a flight bound for the United States, had tried unsuccessfully during a four-week holiday in Barbados to get a West Indian government to accept him as a resident. The Grenada Government want him on a murder charge.

Still stranded

Lusaka (AFP) - The 86-member Zambian delegation which attended the second Pan African youth festival in Tripoli, Libya, is still stranded there, eight days after the festival ended. Libyan aircraft, due to have taken them back, are barred from flying over countries hostile to Tripoli's involvement in Chad.

Dutch death

Muiden (AP) - One man was killed and two seriously injured yesterday in an explosion that destroyed part of a gunpowder plant in this central Dutch town. Last May three people were killed in an explosion at the same plant.

Oilman seized

McAllen, Texas (AFP) - Police were searching here for Senator Hector Garcia Hernandez, a senior official of the Mexican Pemex oil Union, who was kidnapped from his home on Thursday by two gunmen.

Grain exports

Vienna (Reuters) - Austria, which expects a record grain harvest this year, is to export 200,000 tonnes of grain to the Soviet Union and a further 200,000 tonnes to Poland, starting within two days.

Train tragedy

Copenhagen (AP) - Three people were killed and 14 injured when a passenger train hit an empty train just north of here.

Books barred

Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia (Reuters) - The Sultan of Brunei has banned British textbooks because they refer to burs, alcohol and parties. The tiny British protectorate, which becomes fully independent on January 1, forbids the use of alcohol by its largely Muslim population.

Parliament passes Pretoria reforms

Cape Town (Reuters) - The South African Parliament yesterday approved a controversial proposed new constitution which would give limited political power to Indians and Coloureds.

But Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, has promised that his plan to include non-whites in Government, which has split the nation, would be implemented only if approved by the country's white minority in a referendum on November 2.

The country's political parties are sharply divided over the constitution plan which if introduced, would be the first significant change in the system of Government since the union was formed in 1910.

Parliament approved the plan yesterday after a marathon session lasting 127 sitting days, the longest since the National Party came into power in 1948.

The new constitution would set up a three-chamber Parliament of Whites, Coloureds and Indians, headed by an all-powerful executive president. The size of the assemblies has been arranged so that whites would retain tight control of the political system.

But the reforms, which appear mild by international standards, have been fiercely opposed by both right and left wing white political parties.

The official opposition, the Progressive Federal Party, rejects the plan as a further entrenchment of apartheid, the country's system of racial separation based on white supremacy.

The new constitution would continue to exclude the country's 20 million blacks, who form 70 per cent of the population. The Government says they can exercise political rights in tribal homelands and local councils. Black political leaders have been outraged.

Right wing parties have come out against the changes because they believe they would be the thin end of a wedge that would

lead inexorably to racial integration.

Mr Botha's ruling National Party and the New National Party, the smallest parliamentary party, joined forces to push the Bill through by 119 votes to the 35 mustered by the Progressive Federal Party and the right-wing Conservative Party.

White voters, who make up 4.5 million of the country's 26 million population, will be asked in the referendum whether or not they approve of the constitution passed by Parliament.

Political analysts believe the answer will set the political scene in South Africa for years to come.

A no vote would probably mean the political demise of Mr Botha and a probable swing to uncompromising apartheid. An opinion poll of 1,000 whites published yesterday indicated that the result was wide open in urban areas.

If Mr Botha wins, he could face another battle to persuade Indians and Coloureds to take part in the new electoral assemblies. He has said that the new three-house system could be working by next June.

Parliament resumes on January 27 for what could be its last session as a whites-only body.



Mr Botha: Reforming constitution

US pledges to continue arms negotiations

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The United States gave a twin pledge to the European Security Review Conference here yesterday that it will be "energetically involved" at the Geneva intermediate range missile talks with the Soviet Union and "negotiate seriously" for agreements at the European Disarmament conference in Stockholm next January.

The disarmament conference, due to open next January in Stockholm, devoted first to further confidence-building measures to prevent surprise attacks between the East and West.

The two pledges, from Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, proved the only concessions he made to the spirit of détente which the Spanish Government strove to give the last moments of the three-day-long conference, despite it being overshadowed by the Korean airliner disaster.

Mr Shultz said that in the present nuclear age, the United States and the Soviet Union had a mutual responsibility to achieve "practical agreements that push back the spectre of major conflict".

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King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia attended the concluding session with the King drawing a parallel in a short speech between Spanish democracy, with dialogue and respect for human rights after past years of authoritarianism, and the code of civilized conduct between East and West which the 35 nations finally adopted by consensus.

Mr Shultz denounced the Russian shooting down of the jumbo jet. He said, effectively the yardstick for judging how far the Soviet Union's non-compliance with the obligations of the 1975 Helsinki Act must cast doubts on the Madrid promises.

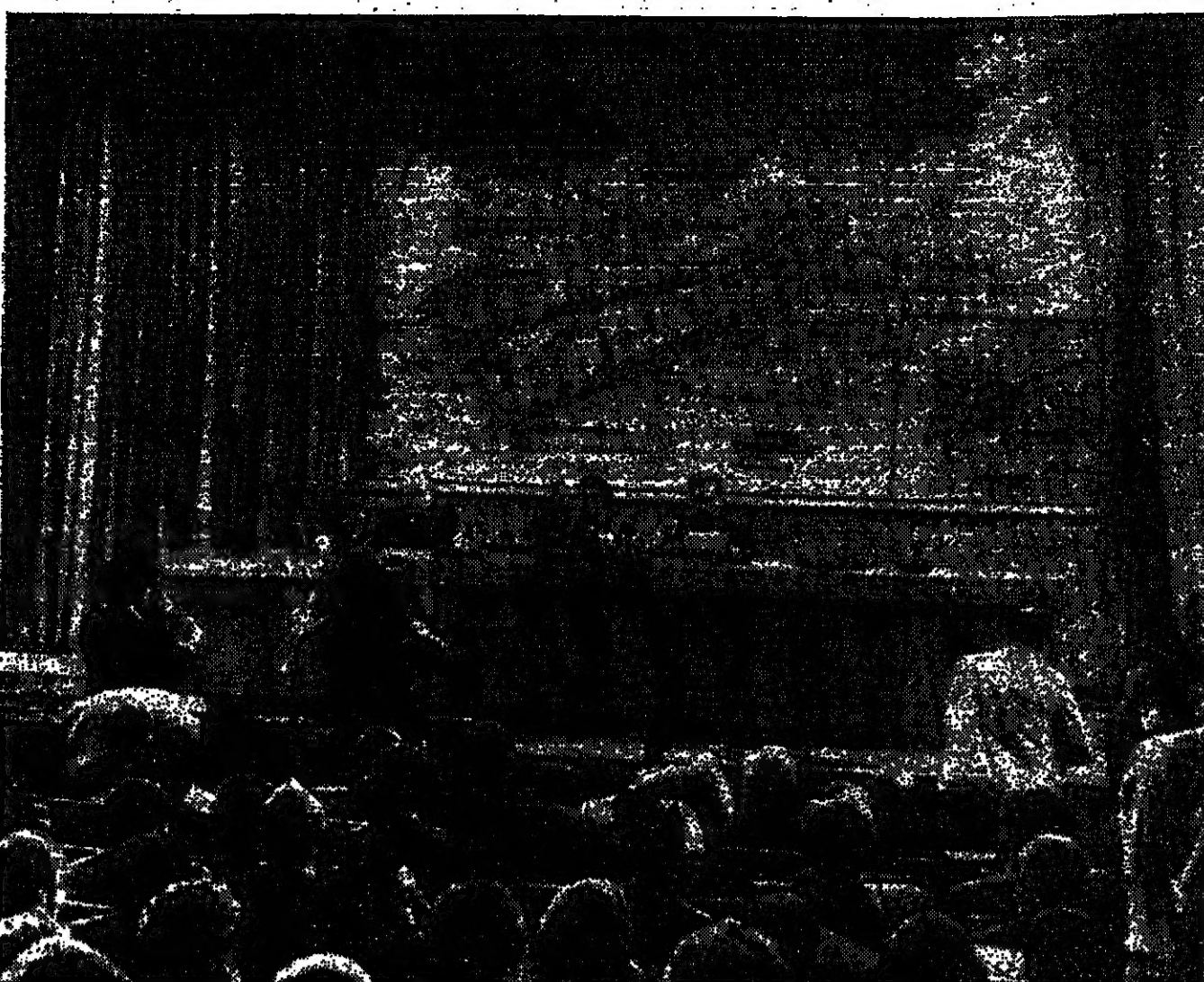
Mr Shultz cancelled a press conference and left Madrid more than an hour before his scheduled departure to report to President Reagan.

Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, told reporters yesterday that Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, had maintained that the British and French nuclear deterrents were strategic and at the same time medium-range missile systems.

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The Korean jet disaster: Moscow lets in the press as Western sanctions begin



Moscow explains: Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov (right) fielding questions at yesterday's crowded press conference

Strange new role for a furtive general

From Richard Owen, Moscow

It was probably the first time in history that a map showing sensitive Soviet bases in the Far East had been shown in public and almost certainly the first time a senior Soviet general had pointed them out to foreign journalists with a long pointed stick.

The map, clearly prepared by the Ministry of Defence, looked slightly tatty, with missile bases and air routes superimposed on the Sea of Okhotsk, the Kamchatka peninsula and Sakhalin island. Maps are state secrets in Russia, so possibly Marshal Ogarkov's was the only one there is. The heading said - in Russian - "Area of the actions of the intruder plane on the night of September 1."

A small boxed diagram in the corner showed the tortuous route taken by the RC135 reconnaissance aircraft.

Marshal Ogarkov lectured in in-

peccable military academy style, explaining in firm and patient tones the route KAL Flight 007 had taken and why Soviet radar and fighter had taken it for a spy plane. It had flown over a missile base. "You can see it on the map," he said, pointing.

He seemed slightly uncertain why he should be explaining such highly sensitive matters, or what we were all doing there. Would it have made a difference if the doomed jumbo had been forced to land, as a Korean airliner was in 1978? Yes indeed, the marshal answered wistfully, we would not all be sitting in this hall.

He took both written and oral questions, speaking methodically and occasionally breaking into a controlled outburst when asked for the nineteenth time why the air defences had killed 269 people, why they could not

tell a Boeing 747 from a spy plane, and whether Mr Andropov had known about it beforehand.

Asked whether there was not a moral aspect as well as a military one, Marshal Ogarkov said he could not see the point of the question.

"It was a spy plane," he insisted, his voice rising. "This was a planned, deliberate act."

The hall, normally thinly-attended for lower-level press conferences on the role of work collectives in the socialist economy, was packed to overflowing, with a giant television screen relaying the proceedings outside. The last big Soviet news conference was in April, when Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, appeared. It was his first press conference for four years.

Pilot tells of earlier difficulties

Seoul (AFP) - The Korean

airliner had trouble with its navigational and communication systems while flying from New York to Anchorage on the first leg to Seoul. It was learnt here yesterday.

Mr Choi Taik Yong, the chief pilot, who flew the jet from New York to Anchorage, said he noticed the plane's horizontal position indicator (HSI) and its central instrument warning system were malfunctioning.

The HSI automatically sets the designated flight route. Technicians had to repair the instruments while refuelling at Anchorage.

The airliner was allowed to resume its journey with a new crew from Anchorage to Seoul after the instruments were given the all-clear.

The Boeing's records showed that its inertial navigational system broke down at least seven times this year.

Reports of the instrument trouble came as a complete surprise here. Aviation officials had insisted that the computerized equipment was foolproof. But some now say a defective HSI could cause an aircraft to stray off course.

Mr Cho Choon Hoon, the Korean Airlines president, even suggested the Russians might have tested new sophisticated equipment capable of disturbing the jet's instruments causing it to stray.

Captain Choi's report also said the airliner's VHF radio system produced noise, making communications difficult. The radio problems could have explained a noisy signal picked up by Japan's Narita Ground Station from the doomed plane several minutes before it was shot down over the Soviet island of Sakhalin nine days ago.

Aeroflot collects extra passengers

As British Airways' ban on Moscow flights began yesterday, a 170-seat Ilyushin of Aeroflot landed at Heathrow and took off with nearly 150 passengers on board - substantially more than usual.

The flight, handled at Heathrow by British Airways, was dealt with by ground handlers who refused to join pilots in their protest against the destruction of the South Korean airliner.

Ground staff met to consider a ban but there was "no reaction" according to a Transport and General Workers' Union spokesman. But he added that a national joint council meeting of all unions involved in ground handling had been called for next Thursday, and a boycott could then be on the agenda.

The International Transport Workers' Federation, to which these unions are affiliated, has called for a country-wide condemnation of Russia and take industrial action to stop flights to Moscow.

Aeroflot's next scheduled flight from Heathrow is tomorrow, followed as usual by Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

At Gatwick, where Aeroflot charter flights are handled by British Caledonian, two flights are due today and further flights tomorrow and Thursday.

One tour company affected, Thomson, said yesterday it hoped to continue its Aeroflot charters until the summer programme ends. Winter programme flights from November are under British Caledonian's own airline.

There were no contingency plans in the event of a ban on Aeroflot, Thomson said. As no charter flights were available under the pilots' ban, the Russian holidays would have to be suspended. Customers would be offered another holiday or their money back.

● Pilots' call: Airline pilots yesterday called for an international agreement to ban the use of weapons by military jets sent to intercept civil aircraft (the Press Association reports).

The international pilots' association also called on world governments to act without delay against the Soviet Union.

Japanese put ban on charters

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Japanese Government announced yesterday a set of modest sanctions against the Soviet Union which will suspend Aeroflot charter and other irregular flights into Japan. Regular Soviet and Japanese bilateral air services, however, will be undisturbed.

The government ordered its employees to stop flying Aeroflot and urged Japanese citizens to boycott the Soviet airline in retaliation for the shooting down of the Korean Air Lines jumbo.

Further measures, it said, may come after studying what sanctions are being taken by other countries. They will, however, be limited to civil aviation.

Meanwhile, the Government said that scraps of metal and other debris thought to belong to the ill-fated airliner have washed up on the shore in northern Hokkaido. Last year Aeroflot had 24 non-scheduled flights into Japan.

The association had been trying to contact its Moscow members to assure them the action was aimed not against them or the Russian people but against a system which could allow such a decision.

Russian pilots, who were members of the association, were urged to join the ban, but "things have gone rather quiet" in Moscow, a spokesman said.

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Gromyko in relaxed mood after Paris talks

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The shooting down of the South Korean Boeing dominated yesterday's talks lasting nearly two hours between Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and President Mitterrand.

The French President agreed to see Mr Gromyko, despite France's wholehearted condemnation of the disaster, because he "considered it necessary to inform Mr Gromyko of France's point of view on the serious problems of the hour," an Elysee Palace spokesman said.

A surprisingly relaxed and smiling Mr Gromyko told journalists after the talks that there were some problems on which there was a complete or almost complete meeting of minds between France and the Soviet Union, and others on which there was little or hardly any agreement.

Mr Gromyko described the talks as "rich in content," adding that they had touched on Franco-Soviet relations and nuclear arms and the Geneva talks. "We understand well French views on certain problems; we hope that the French authorities will understand equally well Soviet views," he said.

It was the first official visit to France by a senior Soviet official since 1980. The Socialist's arrival just over two years ago marked a definite cooling in Franco-Soviet relations and brought to an end the traditional annual visits by the heads of state and foreign ministers of each country.

M. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, paid an official visit to Moscow for the first time last February and was received on that occasion by Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader. It has therefore been assumed that Mr Gromyko would see President Mitterrand, though that was initially called into question earlier in the week because of the Boeing incident, about which France has not sought to mince its words.

In Madrid, M. Cheysson described the incident as a "brutal, unspeakable, shocking, overwhelming and incredible act of 'murder'."

It is understood that M. Mitterrand also sought to impress on Mr Gromyko France's view that nothing could justify the death of 269 innocent people.

Mr Gromyko was originally due to visit Paris last Monday, on his way to the European Security conference in Madrid, but the visit was postponed.

● WASHINGTON: Mr Casper Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, said in a television interview yesterday that the Soviet Union was keeping other nations out of the area where the Korean airliner was shot down because they were going to manufacture some sort of evidence that the Korean pilot was a spy for some "exotic" like that (Washington All writes).

He said: "I think they are going to come up with some black box dripping with seaweed."

Stiff upper lip: Mr Gromyko in Paris

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Syria pours arms into shattered town

Continued from page 1

1,200 Phalangist defenders had been killed. When I asked what had happened to the survivors, a young man with a moustache and a large automatic pistol in his hand grinned and replied: "We took no prisoners."

It is difficult how anyone could have survived the battle of Bhamdoun. Almost every building in the town has been smashed by shellfire, including the great Hotel Lamartine on the main Beirut-Damascus road.

Shops have been burnt and looted - a trail of broken bottles and dummies runs down the street past the former railway station - while columns of thick smoke are still coiling up from houses newly struck by incoming shells.

Whole trees have been uprooted and the streets are carpeted with spent ammunition and pieces of 2ft shell fragments.

The Israeli soldiers withdrew at such speed last Sunday that they left their positions, their earth revetments, sandbags, barbed wire - even their checkpoint sunshades and Hebrew road signs - intact.

The guerrillas who have now swarmed down the mountains towards Beirut have ignored them, but their own flags - the banners of the Druze militia, the Communist Party, the Baathists and the Syrian Socialist Nationalist Party (which is in fact Lebanese) - have been draped from windows and checkpoints, covering up the triangular cedar tree symbols of the Phalangists.

A few spray-painted Stars of David still remain on three half-destroyed walls.

Many of the militiamen in the town sport large beards and an assortment of cowboy hats, although a large number of elderly men in white caps and



traditional Druze baggy trousers were also on the streets, inconspicuously holding two-way radios and automatic rifles.

Although Lebanese and American diplomats have claimed privately that the Syrian Army is now involved in the fighting, I saw only one Syrian official in Bhamdoun. He was a secret service officer in a military jacket playing with a toy pistol not far

from the burnt-out Phalangist headquarters.

But Syrian Army lorries with regimental insignia newly painted on are being used to ferry arms from the Syrian front line at Sout el Bhamdoun with Druze gunmen at the wheels of the vehicles. Syrian troops further east were waving convoys of lorries and Jeeps mounted with recoilless rifles through

A Syrian armoured personnel carrier also stood just up the hill from Bhamdoun with the sickle of Mr Jumblart's PSP militia freshly stencilled on the side.

Furthermore, mortars and heavy artillery were firing out of Sout el Bhamdoun - which is in Syrian hands - and from the Meta hills to the north, which is also under Syrian occupation.

If Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's envoy, had hoped to lessen Syrian involvement in the fighting, he has clearly failed in his objective.

Reagan fails to appease irate women

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

In an attempt to dispel criticism that he is insensitive to women

THE ARTS

The film of Joe Papp's Broadway Production of *The Pirates of Penzance* opened in London this week. The notices so far have been less enthusiastic than they were for *Pirates* on stage. But Linda Ronstadt, the bubble-haired Mabel, reckons "it is so much fun". Joan Goodman spoke to her in New York.

Underneath the satin shorts - a Savoyard rocker

Few people would have suspected that, under Linda Ronstadt's satin shorts and roller skates, her sex-kitten manner and big belting voice, there lurked a sweet, dimpled pure soprano Mabel in high button shoes and a beebonneted bonnet. But when Joe Papp, the doyen of the New York theatre, decided to resurrect *The Pirates of Penzance* two years ago he remembered that Ronstadt had told him she wanted to broaden her horizons. Until then she had forged a single stand career - albeit a hugely successful one - as the queen of California rock and roll.

He called her in Los Angeles (at first getting her then boyfriend, the Governor of California, Jerry Brown, on the phone). "I asked her how high she could sing and she said she used to be a soprano," recalls Papp. "Then I told her I was going to do *Pirates of Penzance* in the park and asked her if she wanted to play Mabel. She got all excited and said she used to sing Gilbert and Sullivan as a kid."

Ronstadt was on the plane to New York the next day. "I wanted to do something else," she says in a voice halfway between a bark and a clinge. "One feels it is for the most part wisdom when she says 'I wasn't interested in films. I didn't think that was my strength and I didn't want to do something where the full responsibility lay on my shoulders. *Pirates* was an ensemble piece and it seemed ideal."

The success of the Papp production, directed by Wilford Leach, and Ronstadt's personal triumph are old history. "She was amazing," says Papp. "She used vocal muscles she hadn't used for years and was as surprised as anyone to find she could hit the highest notes with the strength and purity she did. She won over potential critics and Gilbert and Sullivan aficionados."

Leach recalls opening night: "I suddenly realized I was sitting behind seven elderly ladies who had brought scores. My heart sank. When Linda came on, out came the scores. She started to sing 'Poor Wandering One' a fourth down and there was all this rustling. That she came to the key change that our musical director put in and suddenly she was hitting all the hard stuff, in the high register, in the original key. And the ladies were absolutely demolished." Much the same thing happened when representative of the D'Oyly Carte came to see the show. Not only did they write fan letters to the cast afterwards, they became involved, with the producer Michael White, in presenting *Pirates* in London.

When Papp decided to make the movie of the production, which opened in London on Thursday, Ronstadt was not so sure. "If you've ever seen any of my concerts, you know I'm not a mover. I stand stiff with my arms at my sides and just sing. I think other people are more qualified to be movie stars than I am. It's about thirtyth on my list of things I want to do." What persuaded her was that Leach was going to direct and that the original cast was going to be on it. "We had all been with him from the start and none of us wanted to drop out. But it was hard for me. People think that being in the movies is related to being in the music business, but it's not. I'm in the music business and that's what I like to do. I love to sing. I love to go to the recording studio and work. I don't like to go on the road. It makes me lonely and disorientated and screwed up, but I don't think you can make successful albums without touring."

Making the movie posed another problem - boredom. "I read all of Rebecca West and



Linda Ronstadt: using vocal muscles she hadn't used for years

most of Henry James while waiting around between shots. I love Henry James because he always notices the light. It means something to me too. In my house in California all the windows face west and at sunset it all has a rosy glow. In my bedroom all the curtains turn pink. I sometimes run up there just for the light."

Ronstadt, contrary to all expectations, is no bubble-head. She knows people are surprised when she can sing more than three words together and she blames this on the press. "I still hate most of the stuff that's written about me and what it makes people think of me. It makes me feel like a freak. I can't do even something simple like having dinner with a friend without it turning into a gossip column item. No wonder people stare at you as if you're someone from outer space. I'm just a normal human being. I like to read and I like to garden. I'm smart and I'm concerned with what's happening in the world."

Uncomfortable with her own celebrity, she has made an effort to involve herself with non-showbusiness people. Her relationship with Jerry Brown

changed her life in important ways. The governor's friends were scientists, university heads, politicians and astronauts, and Ronstadt found the company fascinating. "When I was growing up we always had interesting people around the house and I loved to listen to them. I still do. My grandfather was an inventor of things like the electric stove and the grease gun and my mother was always interested in science. My grandfather on my father's side was a rancher in Arizona and his father was the first mining engineer in northern Mexico. He came from Germany. I'm Mexican, German, English and Dutch but I think of myself as more Mexican," says the 36-year-old Ronstadt, whose huge black eyes make convincing evidence.

It was a musical family. Her father, who still runs the family hardware business, sang on his own radio show when he was younger, and Ronstadt recalls harmonizing with her two brothers and her sister around the family piano from the age of four. "I always knew I wanted to be a

singer," she recalls. When she was 18 she went to California where, with a folk group called the Stone Poneys, she had her first success. She did not hit the big time until 1975, however, when, off on her own, she joined forces with the British producer-manager Peter Asher and recorded "*Heart Like a Wheel*". Subsequent albums established her as the leading female rocker of the decade and made her financially independent.

Pirates - film and theatre - made for minimum wages, was a financial loss for her but she remained resolutely loyal to the production and flew in for a press conference in New York when a mild controversy arose about its release. Joe Papp arranged for the film to be seen on a pay-per-view basis on television at the same time it was released theatrically. This caused some cinema exhibitors to boycott the film. Ronstadt, along with her co-stars Kevin Kline and Rex Smith, uncharacteristically gave endless interviews. "I want to do everything I can to help the film," she said. "I love it. It's so much fun and we're so proud of it. I think people ought to have a chance to see it."

Television

Boots and saddled

A footballer who can be things other than over the moon or choked, and who doesn't spit all the time, is something unusual. We met one last night with the start of Granada's three-part serialisation of Stan Barstow's *A Brother's Tale*.

It is really the story of two brothers: Bonny Taylor, a footballer - off-form, off-petting and scoring only with the bottle - and Gordon, English teacher, married, well set up and settled in Yorkshire - settled, that is until his infamous brother arrives to take cover from the press and a surfeit

of censure from the terraces. Things could go anywhere from this instalment as Mr Barstow has sown it with possibilities. It is pretty obvious that Gordon's marriage - hitherto quite secure - give or take the odd glance at a creative writing pupil - is in for trouble, and that women around the town, not entirely to their dissatisfaction, will be not entirely safe with the corrosive Bonny around.

The constabulary are alerted, too, after Bonny has thumped a publican whose comments on his football go beyond the acceptable.

As it turned out the publican had a heart condition and we will not know until next week whether he has survived to make critical comments again. Then there is the reawakened sibling rivalry between the brothers themselves.

Altogether it should lift Friday nights, and may provide another reason for staying away from the fractious game on Saturday. Trevor Eve is the English teacher - they appear to live well in Yorkshire - Kevin McNally the wayward Bonny, and Belinda Lang, Gordon's wife. They all fared extremely well last night, and Les Chatfield's direction kept it moving briskly. Pauline Shaw produced.

Dennis Hackett



Collette Barker (TV, 10pm)

Granada Television's *All for Love*, Mark 2, rocketed shakily off the launching pad last Sunday night with Jean Simmons and Ian Carmichael losing flab, and each giving a health farm. Tomorrow night's drama, *Miss A and Miss M* (ITV, 10pm) puts the series dead on course, again.

Stephen Wakelam has adapted Elizabeth Taylor's subtle tale of a protected teenager (a carefully understated performance by Collette Barker) whose summer vacations at a lakeside hotel (Ullswater, beautifully photographed) become lessons in life when she is admitted to the private world of two women teachers (Kika Markham, Jennifer Hilary, both excellent), who are enjoying what must be a lesbian relationship. You will not have imagined it if you think you hear echoes of *The Go-Between* in Miss Taylor's similarly tragic study of youth's non-comprehension of an adult world.

New to Channel 4, but not to

independent television itself, Arthur Hopcraft's four-part adaptation of Dickens's *Hard Times* (tomorrow, Channel 4, 9.30pm) is the sort of second-showing that gives repeats a good name. *Hard Times* may not be Dickens at his best, but this is certainly TV Dickens at its best.

Also recommended: Pinchas Zukerman's From performance of Beethoven's Violin Concerto, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra (tomorrow, BBC 1, 10pm); Claret and Chips, a cinema-verité account of 27 months in the life of the SDP (tomorrow, Channel 4, 1pm); and Frank Capra's film of Hilson's vision of a Tibetan Utopia, *Lost Horizons*, (tomorrow, BBC 1, 1.55pm), made memorable by Dimitri Tiomkins' curiously potent music.

Radio highlights: The opera version (music by Werner Egk, not Grieg) of Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* (tomorrow, Radio 3, 2.45pm); the City of Birmingham SO tackling Stravinsky's *Petrushka* at the

Proms (tonight, Radio 3, 8.50pm); a radio version of that elegant Ealing mass-murder film *Kind Hearts and Coronets* (tonight, Radio 4, 8.30pm); and the repeat of Nigel Calder's tribute to his father, Lord Ritchie-Calder, *Journey Into Hope* (tomorrow, Radio 4, 11.15pm).

Peter Daville

Radio Well hit, sirs

"A fairly typical day," said the billings to *A Day in the Life of Radio 4* (Radio 4, September 3; producer, David Perry) and it spoke no less than the gospel truth. Russell Davies's 40-minute anthology of take-offs, cruelly approximated to the daily output of our own dear Heath and Home Service, being as near the knuckle as it is possible to get without serious injury. In fact, it bespeaks a good deal of self-confidence that the network felt able to transmit it alongside the real thing. The programme neatly sliced its way through any one of the five weekdays, but transmission day was a Saturday.

Sally Grace, Sheila Steafel, Chris Emmett and Davies did all the impersonations, except for that of Eugene Fraser, who was permitted to impersonate himself. They began with a news bulletin, and hard on its heels another news bulletin well nigh and typically indistinguishable. A bit of *Timpani*/Redhead followed. *Thought for the Day*, delivered by one Canon Daphne Fullover, pondered on God's furniture and was in tone and earnest silliness so like what I have often heard on the regular programme that I suggest it should be transmitted in the normal slot one day as an experiment. Will anybody notice?

Midweek had as guest Samuel Beckett who answered empty Irish questions with a speaking Irish silence; *Wildlife*, without surprise, discovered on our shores the black swan, the ostrich and the dodo; *Checkpoint* went after a character advertising apartments in Buckingham Palace, while *The Daily Service* captured and then lethally sent up that atmosphere

of milky reverence which is the hallmark of the original.

So it went on throughout the day. It was a two-edged distinction to be included, and not all the network's stalwarts earned or suffered it (*Woman's Hour*, for instance, and *Kaleidoscope*). There were the statutory two editions of *The Archers* and *Bookshelf* endearingly reported "End Blayton enjoying a resurgence in Senegal". Bullseye. Of course there was the odd shot that missed the target altogether: an *Afternoon Theatre* that featured two purveyors of sound effects didn't really catch the sound of radio drama at its flat-footed worst.

In general, however, the Davies/Perry duo (previously renowned for some very classy documentaries on Radio 3) scored a succession of hits. How unfortunate for Radio 4's new comedy series, *Sea of Cliché* (Tuesday, repeating Wednesday), that it chose the same week to make mock of its own network. I noticed was its very much less certain aim.

One class of programme that did not - could not - feature in the standard Radio 4 day was Desmond Briscoe's *By St Thomas Water* - for the very good reason that few programmes quite like it ever happen, and indeed I understand that this one had some problems happening at all. It was a portrait of the Cornish poet, Charles Causley, done in the Briscoe manner. That is to say he had recorded the comments and memories of his subject's friends and acquaintances, chopped the tape into little bits, and reassembled it in biographical sequence. Into this he had inserted readings by Causley of

his own work and backed it with sounds of the native heath, namely Lamoucton. Not everybody likes the Briscoe manner - which may account for problems it faced making it to the air - and indeed it risks horrible fragmentation. But in my estimation the skill and feeling of his execution overcame this risk. Careful linking and balancing of voices gave them a remarkable coherence, while the local sounds illuminate but never dominate the speech. Briscoe conveys superbly well the sense of a writer in his place. It is not a critical portrait in the literary sense, and perhaps that also makes it more difficult to be accepted, although there is no shortage of the literary, God knows.

With *Pravina's Wedding* (September 4; director, Betty Davies) Capital Radio aired the winner of its competition for a play by or about Asians in the United Kingdom. The author, Sadie Ghelani, is in fact an Englishwoman married to a Ugandan Asian. This was probably why, in its interesting theme and detail, her work persuaded me of its authenticity. Neatly woven into the story were a score of intractable problems, great and small, that are bound to arise when people living in a new country want both the benefits of the host culture (particularly its education) and the maintenance of traditions - difficult to uphold away from their culture, particularly in parental and marriage relationships. A pretty creditable first play of the social problem breed - especially since it had to contend with a rather effortful and angular performance from the mainly Asian cast.

David Wade

Edinburgh Festival

Fennimore and Gerda King's Theatre

In their summer season at home, the Opera Theatre of St Louis brought Frank Corsaro's production of Delius's *Margot* to the United States. Now, in the second of their two operas for Edinburgh, Mr Corsaro continues his fervent Delian advocacy, making the English convention this time with the composer's last opera, *Fennimore and Gerda*.

Fennimore and Gerda has managed, obliquely, to make the Festival connexion too: the work is based on a novel by the Danish writer, Jens Peter Jacobsen, who was Rilke's spiritual mentor and whose *En Cactus Springer Ud* inspired Schoenberg's *Gurrelieder*, performed here last Sunday. But that is about as far as the connexion goes.

Delius had taken two episodes from the novel *Niels Lyhne* and spread out their simple story in 11 "pictures": two friends, Niels and Erik fall in love with the same woman, Fennimore; she marries Erik; he succumbs feebly to emotional and artistic disillusionment; Niels takes over as the true Fennimore; Erik dies of drink; Fennimore succumbs to remorse; Niels goes off and finds a new spring love in Gerda.

The key is "pictures", and Frank Corsaro, always stimulated by the visual (think of his *Glyndebourne Love for Three Oranges*) has well nigh turned the opera into cinema, the music into a sound track. Each exquisitely composed cameo is glimpsed behind a misty gauze screen, fading in and out of Ronald Chase's lush projections of dappled leaves, passing and lowering clouds, glinting water and quivering blossoms. It is a neat and beguiling solution to Delius's desire for naturalism coupled with an insistence on simplicity and uninterrupted flow.

What is more, the obsession with the photographic reinforces the work's underlying ambience. The first tableau, significantly, shows a slide show in progress; Erik's art is tied to the case; this is a world where nostalgia, commemoration, smother the present, where joy flies on the wings of time. We hear it in the groping irresolution of the music's harmonies and see it through the Edwardian blurred-edged canons and our modern soft-focus colour postcard equivalent.

Its mesmerizing and deceptive beauty, bound closely with the music's narcotic surge emphasises, too, the social and emotional isolation of woman in this period: the work is not called *Fennimore and Gerda* for nothing. "Reality is grey and phylax", the married Fennimore discovers as from the prison of her own boredom she is delivered first by one man, as a means of finding his own long-lost happiness, then loved by another whom she cannot hope to understand and who in turn is forced to regress to another fun-dappled insanity. Whether all this was consciously planned or not, it



David Benckton, Kathryn Bouleyn and Stephen Dickson in Fennimore and Gerda

certainly provided something to ponder on during 90 long minutes. For the definition of this production soon pall simply because, sadly perhaps but surely, it calls for our Pearl and Dean generation too many unwanted images and cliché responses.

More important, even for the less jaded, the very lingering tends to weaken an already embarrassingly slow, weak libretto. Continuity is achieved, but at the expense of the "short, strong emotional impressions given in given in a series of terse scenes" which Delius also required.

These would indeed be impossible when so much of the music's work is done for it, in visual anticipation and afterthought. It is a tougher score and spends less time starting the obvious than this production makes it seem; indeed born-again Delians regard it as

one of his finest scores. Its mastery ease of movement, of textual and harmonic detail and its evolution were given full honours in Christopher Keene's exuberant direction of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

No less idiomatic and sympathetic to the music's pacing and colour was the singing of Kathryn Bouleyn as Fennimore, a ripe, malleable soprano intelligently examining a difficult role. The astute vocal characterization of David Benckton's Erik and Stephen Dickson's Niels, too, showed well what this company is made of. It has been good to sample their vigour and initiative even if their Edinburgh programme has shown more of the enterprise than the full substance of Richard Gaddes's *American Glyndebourne*.

Hilary Finch

Concert

Bartók's *Divergence*, a work perhaps over-renowned for being easy in the ear. True, the finale has its patches of gypsy marriage, indeed amounting sometimes to almost outrageous levity, and the music has footholds of diatonic conventionalism to encourage the cautious listener.

Yet this pristine performance stressed aspects of the younger Bartók which are present in the work. The *Caric* *Molto* adagio was heard to be not so far removed from the nocturne of the middle quartets, as the occasional grinnings in the outer movements equally reminded one of the Bartók of the 1920s. For all that, it was still a vastly entertaining reading.

Mozart knew as well as anybody how to write music both brilliant and lasting. In his *Piano Concerto in E major*, K.414, (played without the optional wind parts) Zoltán Kocsis, sharing the direction with Rolia, gave a

Rock

John Hiatt Half Moon, Putney

John Hiatt is perhaps best known as the writer and guitarist who helped revitalize Ry Cooder's approach to live performance two years ago. He is also an accomplished artist in his own right, one who learnt his craft the hard way as a struggling wordsmith on Nashville's notorious Music Alley. He is more widely respected outside his native America, where his literate, sardonic approach renders him something of an anomaly. But his talent is such that he has already been taken under the illustrious wing of Jack Nietzsche, contributing to the master's film scores with and without Cooder's assistance.

This one-off London show gave an enjoyable if at times peculiar insight into Hiatt's various styles. Playing solo, accompanied by his own guitar, piano and harp, Hiatt offered a low-key entertainment that veered from pleasant country ballads, blues and soul to some radically rearranged versions of his idiosyncratic pop songs. He rarely stretched himself instrumentally, which was something of

Stevie Ray Vaughan The Venue

The recent success of Texan guitarist Stevie Ray Vaughan has been one of the summer's more pleasant surprises. At a time when the charts are full of morbid pop songs and hideously insipid soul records it is something of a shock to the central nervous system to be assaulted by such a raucous viable blues and rock group again.

Vaughan and his group, Double Trouble, are hardly subtle. The young leader seems to have recovered from taking orders from David Bowie (he's featured

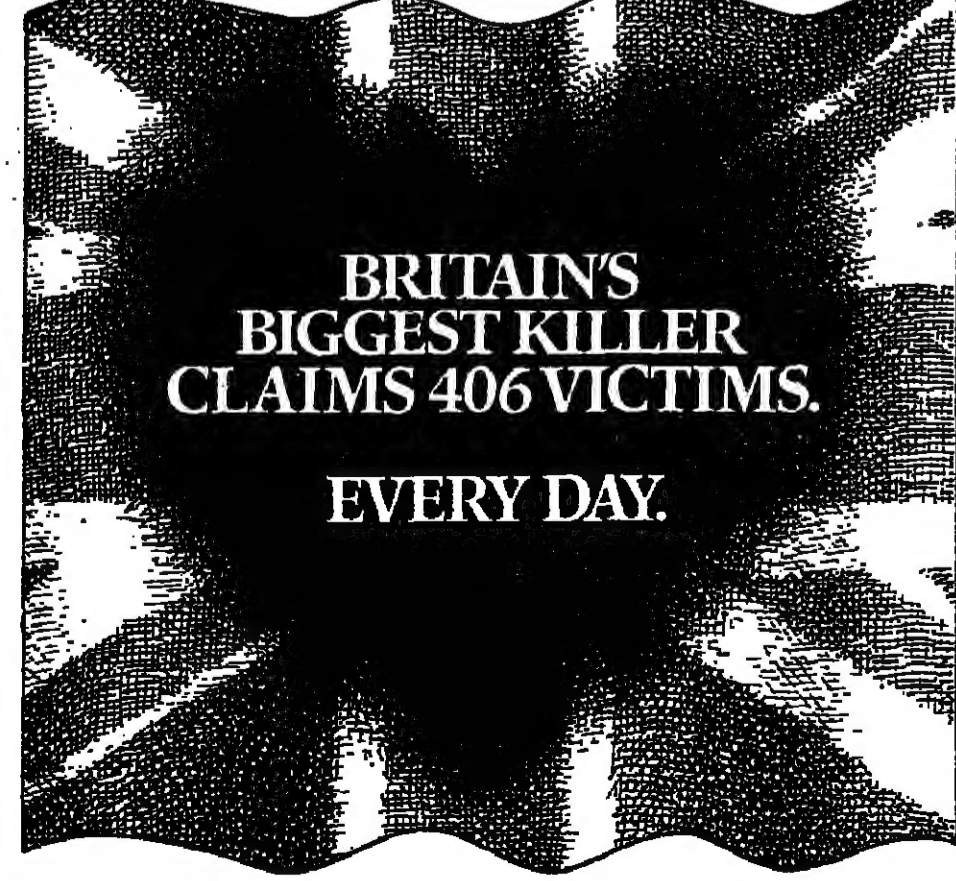
a disappointment, yet after a brief hiatus in a lengthy set he pulled enough strands together to make sense of what was essentially an informal and impromptu concert.

Hiatt's more modern numbers concern themselves with the darker side of sexual politics. He likes to cast himself in the role of private eye, a slightly seedy observer on the trail of his hapless victims. The gumshoe imagery is backed up by some devastatingly witty insights into human frailty, with Hiatt turning the tables on himself as much as those he spies upon.

The best received songs towards the second half of the set included a litting blues "Train to Alabama", fresh versions of "Radio Girl" and "Pink Bedroom" and the highlight of the set, a moody piano and vocal interpretation of "Riding With The King", the title cut from his forthcoming album.

The evening closed with a series of humorous vignettes, all fine in the context of a bar setting. Nevertheless, I look forward to seeing Hiatt again leading an electric band. He is an engaging solo performer, but a far more powerful force in front of a noisy band.

Max Bell



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*Based on official figures of deaths under 75 from heart and circulatory diseases in Britain in 1980.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Disinventing

The blame Sir Robin Day attached to Tam Dalyell for his embarrassment at the Edinburgh television festival continues to reverberate within the BBC. This week Dalyell published his book *A Science Policy for Britain*, the result of work begun at Michael Foot's request in December 1980, when Dalyell was Labour's front-bench spokesman on science. It had been arranged that he was to appear on BBC television in Scotland and on the BBC's Radio 4 *Start the Week*. Both arrangements fell through at the last moment. In Scotland Dalyell was told, half an hour before he was due, that he was not needed and was advised that the subject would be "false lead" thereafter. *Start the Week* said they abandoned his appearance because his publishers had failed to telephone. Dalyell suspects some connection in all this, but was not sure as definitively as the Belgrave. The Independent LBC has him an hour-long phone-in.

Cry Wolf

Sir John Wolf, the Jewish head of drama at Anglia Television, has been caught in the crossfire between the author Roald Dahl and the state of Israel. The hit series *Tales of the Unexpected* has been banned by Israeli television since Dahl reviewed Tony Clifton's account of the Beirut massacres, *God Cried*, for the *Literary Review*, which is owned by the Palestinian Naim Attallah. The ban is indiscriminate since *Tales of the Unexpected* has been shown in Israel long ago. Subsequent episodes by other authors do not have Dahl's name on the credits, and he does not earn a penny from them. Dahl thinks the Israeli reaction (which puts him in the same category as the composers Richard Wagner and Richard Strauss) is rather like Nazi book-burning. Wolf, though, says that what Dahl wrote about the death of 25,000 civilians in Lebanon was a "disgusting and scurrilous attack".

Borderline

The idea that the Russians must be competent to tell the difference at night between a Boeing 747 and an RC 135, the military version of the smaller Boeing 707, rather surprises Ian Mather, defence correspondent of *The Observer*. Three years ago he was in an American B52 bomber flying in broad daylight close to the East German border. When the pilot requested permission to enter the exercise area to carry out a simulated bombing raid, he heard the US military ground control reply: "Permission refused, sir. We have a B52 up there. 'I am the B52', the pilot answered in exasperation. Afterwards he told Mather he had no idea what caused the confusion, but said: "It happens all the time. A Russian Bear reconnaissance aircraft could fly across Europe and they would think it was an airliner".

BARRY FANTONI



"And how else can I give Mr. Andropov a piece of my mind?"

Infernal

With concern over straw and stubble burning at its height, the Government has aborted a research programme that has already shown that the National Farmers Union code on burning is misguiding in several respects. The Department of Trade and Industry's Western Springs Laboratory had been commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture to research ways of minimizing the nuisance which gives rise to 10,000 complaints a year. The next stage, a series of test burns at 33 pre-treated fields costing £25,000, has been cancelled. This is probably just the Government ill-advisedly clutching at straws to save a bit of money. It is too much to hope, I suppose, that it is a straw in the wind indicating that it might actually ban the whole infernal business next year.

Topping the bill

Neil Kinnock, a formidable performer on any stage, was for years the star turn at Tribune meetings during the Labour Party conference, and took cameo parts in the traditional satirical sketches by The Red Revue. Tonight the tables are turned: the revue is performing to raise funds for Kinnock's leadership campaign. The beneficiary is unlikely to take to the stage except for a word of thanks at the end. It is already a sell-out.

A PHSocialite in the country writes that her aunt's next-door neighbour died and was cremated. A few weeks later 30 relatives arrived and dug a little in the neighbour's small lawn. Just as they started to scatter his ashes on the plot, a gust of wind lifted the entire remains over the fence and deposited them on auntie's line of washing. How, we wonder, should one behave when one's neighbour blows in so uninvited.

Make cable pay — on the cheap

by John Howkins

The Government's plans for cable television are based on the well established idea that people want to watch films at home. American experience and recent research in Britain, while inconclusive on most matters, support this single conclusion, which is certain to be reinforced at the Cable and Satellite Television (CAST) conference that opens in Birmingham on Monday.

The problem is, are there enough films? More precisely, are there enough good, watchable films to supply the two or three channels (HBO/Goldcrest, the Entertainment Network and the BBC's) that are now being put together? Production in Britain is now running at about 40 suitable (ie, not pornography) films a year, which is hardly enough. Even the US produces only 200 a year.

Fortunately, the Government is now reviewing its film policy. The man responsible for implementing that policy is Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, who has led the Government's cable strategy. Will he now take steps to ensure that the new systems have something to show?

A problem has arisen because cable is better at some things than at others. It is best at supplying premium entertainment. It can also supply more of the same (ie, a TV news programme running 24 hours a day) and specialist programmes, such as a local channel for an ethnic community. But these services will probably not make much money.

More usefully, cable can provide interactive services like television, which according to some people are money-spinners.

For the past 30 years governments have been very reluctant to hand over more TV channels, and have seen little reason to promote films. Ten years elapsed before the Home Office felt safe in setting up Channel 4, and neither the BBC nor the IBA have put up a strong case for an extension of public service broadcasting (as the

Home Office, anyway, seems to have inferred from their submissions to the Hunt and Merriam inquiries).

So why should the Government worry about the fate of the film channels? The reason is that without them, the new cable systems would go bankrupt. The Government's real interest is in the future of the interactive services, which it regards as an important element of the "information society". However, unlike other European governments, it has refused to put one penny of Treasury money into the cable systems that will eventually operate these interactive services. So the responsibility has been passed to the film channels (and their backers). They are expected to generate the cash, if not the profit, to pay for the systems which will then be used to carry the interactive services.

There is one snag. The shortage of good films could be made temporary. But films will always be expensive. As

James Lee, chairman of Goldcrest — the producers of *Gandhi* and *Chariots of Fire* said at the recent Edinburgh Television Festival, the cheapest feature film (as shown on Channel 4's Film on Four slot) costs £500,000 (some cost less). A second division feature such as David Putnam's *Local Hero* costs about £2.5m. An international blockbuster like *Gandhi* costs more than £10m.

Although everyone, even before the arrival of the cable era, watches more films on TV than in the cinema, TV pays very little for the privilege. The only TV station to invest in films is Channel 4, which can afford only the cheapest productions. The BBC and ITV are notorious for paying only a small proportion of what it costs to make a film. Television, including pay television, is a leech on the film industry.

At present few producers can afford to make the films that are needed if

cable is to be successful both financially and as something we want to watch. If cable attracts few subscribers, and the grand plan fails, one of two things may happen. Either British, alone of the industrial countries, will have no cable, or British Telecom will buy up the loss-making cable companies and Labour's plan for a national grid will happen by default.

Fortunately, Mr Baker can prevent such a disaster. He can do three things. All are practicable, and do not involve a charge on the Treasury.

First, the Government should push ahead with cable as fast as possible. Film channels make more money by selling to more subscribers. Therefore the Government should take steps to support an active and efficient cable sector. It will soon licence the initial tranche of 12 systems. Why 12? It would be better to license anyone who puts up a sensible application.

Second, the Government should extend the film levy now charged by cinema owners to cover all forms of distribution and exhibition. The burden should be taken off the cinemas, which are declining, and put on to TV and video, which are expanding. The Minister has on his desk several well-argued proposals for such an extended levy. The total income, probably about £30m a year, would be redistributed within the film, TV, and video industries. This money is vital to provide pre-production investment in British film companies.

The third point should appeal particularly to Mr Baker. He should, for the moving image what he did last year for information technology. During IT Year 1982, he raised the public's consciousness, in the friendly way, and created the right conditions for hundreds of companies to grow and flourish. Indeed, today's interest in cable is part of his achievement. He should now use the same techniques to finish the job. Why not Film Year 1984?

The author is editor of *InterMedia*.



Costing only £350,000, *Remembrance* is the kind of film — given the necessary encouragement — that could fill cable's hungry hours

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

(For reasons that will become clear, the sub-editors declined to write a headline for this article)

The other day I wrote a column about the tireless efforts being made by some Liberals to ruin their own party (has it never entered the head of Mr David Alton that if it had not been for Mr Steel's leadership and the respect and liking he has consequently inspired in the electorate, Mr Alton would have received 384 votes at the general election, 211 of them from people who were under the impression that he was a television comedian?). The headline was "For Liberals read lemmings".

Whenever a newspaper article figures in legal proceedings — in a libel action, say — somebody has to explain to the judge and the lawyers that writing journalists do not write their own headlines. This is partly for technical reasons with which I shall not burden you, and partly because the art of headline-writing is not at all the same as the art of writing the words underneath; many of the most gifted of newspaper journalists do not have that particular skill at all.

Headlines are written by people called sub-editors, and it was they who wrote the headline I have referred to. The sub, as we call them, are an odd and undesirable species; no one who has seen them emerging, at edition time, from nearby burrows (called "pubs"), blinking at the light and licking the last drops off their whiskers, can fail to warm to the merry creatures, in appearance somewhat resembling koala-bears and really not unlike lemmings themselves. All sensible journalists take care to make friends of the sub; my own relations with them, I am happy to say, are of the most cordial, and not only because I always have a biscuit or two or a knob of sugar in my pockets when I go to see them.

The headline, likening Liberals to lemmings, was inspired, obviously, by the strange habit that lemmings have, well-documented through the years, of rushing down to the sea in enormous numbers and drowning themselves. There are two principal theories to explain this curious behaviour. The more romantic is the belief that the lemmings have a deeply rooted biological memory of a sunken continent which millions of years ago, they inhabited, and that their mass suicides are the fruits of a desperate attempt to find again their lost home or perish in the attempt.

This well-supported and strongly

held belief was enshrined in verse by a former poet laureate, John Masefield:

Once in a hundred years
The lemmings come
Westward, in search of food, over the snow;
Westward, until the salt sea drowns
them dumb;
Westward, till all are drowned, those
Lemmings go.
Once, it is thought, there was
a westward land
(Now drowned) where there was food
for those starved things,
And memory of the place has burnt
its brand
In the little brains of all the
Lemming kings...

The less haunting but more widely held theory for the lemmings' periodic mass suicides, one which fits better into our gloomy times, is that they do it deliberately, out of an excess of *Weltschmerz*, and it is this explanation that has made the lemming so popular a metaphor for those who wish to point to headless self-destructive urges among humankind; there must by now be several hundred thousand printed references to the "lemming-like" behaviour of the nuclear powers in their arms race.

Masefield touches upon the second version, too, and its human analogue, for the rest of the poem I have quoted runs as follows:

Perhaps, long since, there was a land
beyond
Westward from death, some city,
some calm place
Where one could taste God's quiet
and be fond
With the little beauty of a human
face;
But now the land is drowned, yet
still we press
Westward, in search, to death,
to nothingness.

Now scientists will have none of these theories; lemmings drown themselves in huge numbers, but the experts, though they cannot explain the phenomenon, reject both the belief that the lemmings behave thus in search of Atlantis and the conjecture that they do so to fill *Daily Telegraph* leading articles. Another great lemming expert, Robert Bridges, was of this more hard-headed school, saying in *The Testament of Beauty* (I am sorry about his horrible orthography) that:

There is no tradition among the
Lemmings of Norway
how their progenitors when they
offspring increased,
bravely forsook their crowded nest
in the snow,
swarming upon the plains to ravage
field and farm,
and in unswerving course ate their
way to the coast,
where plunging down the rocks they
swam
to drowning death; nor have they
any plan for their journey or
prospect in the event.

All the foregoing sets out simply the reasons for the place the lemming holds in the imagination of millions who have never set eyes on one of them; whence the headline on my column. What now follows should not be read by those with a history of heart trouble, for the shock to the nervous system that my readers are about to experience might well prove too much for the particularly susceptible.

Lemmings don't. They don't, that is, rush down to the sea and drown themselves, whether in search of a sunken land, or because they have run out of Nembutal, or for any other reason. They do take part in gigantic migratory movements, and there is evidence that these follow a cyclical pattern — not once a century, as Masefield says, but probably every four years; the reason for these mass uprootings is still not clear, though it seems to have something to do with population pressure. In the course of the migrations with herds of lemmings simultaneously on the march, some inevitably get drowned in streams and fjords, and when they reach the coasts many drown in the attempt to reach offshore islands. But the Gadarene Lemming is a mythical animal, and the real one — *Lemmus lemmus* — is entitled to complain about many decades of defamation.

The greatest scholar of lemming-lore was the late Charles Elton, sometime director of the Bureau of Animal Population in Oxford; his book on the subject, *Voles, Mice and Lemmings* (OUP 1942), which disposes of many lemming myths, including the one which holds that they are raised from the clouds, is still the standard work on the subject, though there is an excellent, more popular work by Walter Marsden, called *The Lemming*

Year (Chatto 1964) and of course no serious student of the subject can ignore Wildhagen's *Om lemmingene i bestanden av smuggerere i Norge*.

All serious authorities, however, and all field studies, are adamant that the verdict of *felo de se* is, and always has been, a miscarriage of justice; Elton says that "When a lemming cannot avoid meeting a man he will often at his hind legs and hop up and down as if in excited anger and charge the intruder, who may get his hand bitten deeply if he tries to pick the animal up", and it seems very likely that the lemming's anger and aggressive behaviour have been excited by the tenuous but unjust belief in its suicidal tendencies. Though the lemming has figured in folklore for a good many centuries, the mass drowning belief is, interestingly enough, a twentieth-century creation. It is, I suppose, a sophisticated myth, appealing in its deliberate suicide aspect to fashionable modern pessimism and in its Atlantis-search form to the equally fashionable yearning for a new, pure world elsewhere. Professor Bergen Evans, in that most entertaining work *The Natural History of Nonsense* (Michael Joseph 1947) points out that it is a popular belief with the *New Yorker*, but the role of lemming mythopoeist to the genre must long since have been taken over by the *New York Review of Books*.

I do not suppose that my words today will kill the lemming legend; I have often pointed out in vain that Canada did not suppose it would make the waves turn back (he commanded them to do so in order to show up his courtiers, who insisted that he had such powers, for the fools they were), and I have also fruitlessly explained that Cloud-cuckoo-land, invariably used as an insult, is in fact a high compliment, for in Aristophanes' play *The Birds*, Nephelococcygia, or Cloud-land, the kingdom established by the birds midway between heaven and earth, triumphantly brings both gods and men to subjection. Myths, however, have their own power — they would not be myths if they did not — and I do not expect the suicidal lemming myth to vanish from the earth after today. Still, it might vanish from a few newspaper headlines; and with even that much of an achievement I would be well content.

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Roy Strong

Let's sort out this holiday jam

About this time in September next year's diary arrives in my office to be seized upon and marked up immediately. It makes no reference to festivals of the Church but it is a mine of information on public holidays around the world. A quick count produces a league table: Spain 15, Austria, 13, Turkey, 12, the USA and Finland tie with 11 and Greece and Sweden with 10. Life must be grim in Bulgaria with a measly six, but this country only has eight. That brings me to the point, which is not so much how few public holidays we have, but, given the number, how we can ever have been so idiotic as to have ended up with such an uneven distribution of them over the 12 months.

The public holidays start with Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Days. No problems there. We then move on to the agonizing pile-up of Good Friday, Easter Bank Holiday, May Day and Spring Holiday. The agony, of course, increases or diminishes depending when Easter falls in a given year. At worst, April and May can be written off as non-stop dislocation. The frequency of public holidays produces not so much a *festum* as a sense of *estrangement* above all in the weary output of the media forced to dredge up something in festive vein.

If we had to be landed with May Day (and did we have to?) the Spring holiday should have been done away with. As it is, based on the nearest weekend, May Day is a flop, at best in the country taking the belated form of exhuming the maypole, which certainly cannot have been the idea of the legislators who introduced it. The sight of "peasants" bearing garlands and frolicking on the fabled village green, crowning a queen of all things, have been farthest from their thoughts.

No, there is a lot to be said for rationalizing all of this. One of those days should be moved to the period between August Bank Holiday and Christmas. It is a long haul with no Thanksgiving day to relieve it. Why not, for instance, revive the accession day of Queen Elizabeth I?

This was loyally celebrated in town and country well into the eighteenth century. In fact, before the advent of that terrible expression bank holiday the English year was peppered with days that celebrated national deliverances and triumphs: November 5 for the Gunpowder Plot or May 29, Oak Apple Day, for the Restoration of the Monarchy. The British are supposed to be so proud of their heritage but to have a system of public holidays fails to wave a hand in the direction of either the battles of Tewkesbury or Waterloo, the defeat of the Spanish Armada or the Battle of Britain. And no national heroes have ever got a look-in.

This is not to say that every public holiday should be turned into a vehicle for nationalism but it is remarkable that, apart from those associated with the cycle of the Christian year, the only one with a specific intent is a festival observed by a small section of the population. The same, on a religious level, could now equally be said of those Christian festivals still left.

Public holidays are, of course, deeply reflective of the structure and values of a society and it is interesting to consider them within such a historical perspective. The medieval structure was religious, marrying the birth and death of the year, and along with it, many pagan survivals, into a cycle based on the life of Christ. With the Reformation this was overlaid by the introduction of state festivals commemorating the glories of the crown and the vanquishing of Catholic opposition. Bank holidays, introduced in the late nineteenth century, had no such connotation. Interestingly the only ones that still do are those extraordinary ones which mark the jubilees, coronations, marriages and deaths of members of the Royal Family, and in so doing neatly locate the fount of popular mythology in this century.

It does not, however, solve the infuriatingly uneven distribution of public holidays in the calendar year. Surely the subject can be ironed out by logic?

Sir Roy Strong is Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Paul Jennings



Splendour departing from every platform

A case of terminal ferroconda

In front of our eyes they are violating, uprooting, possibly even exorcising — certainly making dull, dead and boring — the mystery and splendour of Liverpool Street station. Already, on a kind of poor man's Tower of Babel, of pinboard scaffolding, great squat low horizontal girders are breaking up the soaring verticality, the noble, uncaring, splendidly sheer height unopposed in any other London terminus.

It is far too late to tell them now (and they wouldn't have listened even if it had been set to music and sung outside their head office by a picked choir of a thousand commuters and historians), but British Rail have only themselves to blame if the picture we have is of a kind of Brent shopping centre, interlarded with insurance and pension fund offices, plunked down at the end of the lines which will all have been pulled up and grown over with willowherb in five years' time. For, collective victims of *ferroconda*, they made the fundamental mistake of assuming that any objections could be dismissed as coming from steam-nostalgia freaks.

Ferroconda is the long-overdue name, from the Latin *ferro* (iron) (shame or coyness) and *conda* (iron, hence railway line, as in the Italian *ferrovio*) for the psychotic state of being ashamed of any suggestion of rail travel. It was *ferroconda* that made BR high-ups order the breaking of bridges about five minutes after the Beeching "plan" was announced, lest it should be revoked. It is *ferroconda* that prevents them from seeing that a terminus should glory and boast in its sense of meaning and endings. Artists like Frith, with his engines and people and children and luggage and bustle right inside the station, and Monet, with arch of the Gare St Lazare framing the bright invitation of cloud, steam, air, space, the whole huge French terrain, knew this. The people who made the new trains actually invisible from the new Euston, a kind of secular version of Coventry Cathedral, did not.

And these Liverpool Street people certainly do not. They do not know — or, even more important, feel — how, touching something infinitely older than the admittedly romantic steam roots, which are essentially of the North and Midlands, it connects the ancient stones and teeming full-life of London with primal clay creeks where the first secret Saxon part of our identity was overlaid by new infusions of northern Viking blood, to settle down into the slow pastoral life, with early hermits and Christianization, the growth of secret, beautiful, many-churched towns.

Liverpool Street connects with Dillingham, Cromer, March, Beccles, Dornham, Market, Wotton, Spooner, Row, Harwich, Wivenhoe, as well as Cambridge. Yet a road goes right through it, bringing us from mysterious Shoreditch, Spitalfields, Finsbury, Cockneyland. An enormous marble war memorial, in the intimate, human-scale looking hall, to Great

Eastern men killed in the First World War has adjacent to it a smaller one to Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson "who died within two hours of unveiling this memorial" (assassinated by the IRA). Until quite recently I used to see faded flowers with a card on which it said: "C. W. Underwood. Ever-loving memory from Alice of Ipswich."

You come in past abandoned Victorian factories, old walls leaking strange green chemicals, black niches containing forgotten cans of paint and bearing such strange call messages as *God of Hainault* (there for years). You can enter it from various levels — enormous staircases or gentle slope. Outside is a semi-underground building with a low door saying *Gymnasium, A. T. Harrison. Licensed to sell beer, spirits, etc.* There are embedded mysterious small, random steel plates. It has an almost Elizabethan Globe Theatre-type gallery running round it high above the platforms that has a mysterious life of its own, with strange useless telephones, another booking hall, a curious isolated bistro with a whiff of Thirties-type leisure, though it was created quite recently; sometimes leading to platforms and real life, sometimes into blank brick walls or locked offices, perhaps (who knows?) into a secret part of what the new now calls the GREAT RN HOTEL.

The people, if not BR, have an instinctive realization of this. Arriving on one of those gorgeous hot Sundays I found the holiday crowds, many young foreigners with great but smart back-packs, and an enormous crowd of policemen and policewomen, with little radios, I picked one of them up. He looked at me sideways. "Well, the football's beginning," he said. It was before even the Charity Shield post-season matches. Later, I asked a young man on a bench why he thought they were all there. "Ah, used to be a police station there, didn't there?" he said, as if everyone knew this was right in the middle of sprawling Dickensian tenements full of Bill Sikeses and Fagin.

All this, and East Anglia. Steam nostalgia doesn't come into it. What they need is to snap out of that *ferroconda* and get some of the mystery of glass (and plastic dammit, the French have managed it at Charles de Gaulle Airport, with those magical processions of people passing you in odd, space-filling counterflow) that the Victorians got into the first Liverpool Street.

Let such nubes go right on along the platforms, like the things that now greet aircraft, from the marvellously repainted, regilded, originally lofty hall. Let there be a sense of Constable trees, Viking ships, pebbly beaches, marbles, flint churches, sea birds, sky, distance, trains, different levels, flower shops, fountains, modern social, jolly "outside" restaurants with little white chairs and wine (perhaps from Pullman St Margaret, Norfolk). Anything but those damned offices.

Mao, the father who failed a generation

Jonathan Mirsky meets the first Red Guard to tell the world about the agony of China's Cultural Revolution

Before he could walk, Liang Heng was taught to say "I love Chairman Mao". As a child in school he wrote: "We are all Chairman Mao's good soldiers." But Liang did not know when the Great Teacher died in 1976. By then, Liang's idealism had cracked under the weight of the Cultural Revolution.

"No Chinese would find my life surprising," Liang, now 29, says. "The same things happened to millions of others." What is surprising is that Liang has written a candid and personal book about China. Unlike the Soviet Union, China has produced no torrent of written accounts detailing the struggle to survive. This ex-Red Guard's story of his disordered, violent youth is the first of its kind. Liang is now a student of literature at Columbia University in New York, where he lives with his American wife, whom he met in China when she was a teacher there.

Together they have written a book about Liang's turbulent first 25 years. "Chinese are very patriotic," Liang says. "They say, 'If your family is ugly, keep it to yourself.' But I think I should say what happened. It could happen again." Liang Heng was born in 1954, and his life spans the convulsive periods of "Mao's tragic errors", as the Party now calls them. In 1958, during the anti-rightist campaign directed at intellectuals, Liang's mother was declared a "bad element" and sent into internal exile. In a vain attempt to save himself from subsequent purges, Liang's father divorced her.



Liang Heng and wife Judith: "It could happen again"

In the early 1960s, upwards of 25 million Chinese starved to death because of Mao's economic policies. Liang and his sister ate grass in Martyr's Park in the southern city of Changsha.

In the late 1960s the Cultural Revolution scattered Liang's family and he became a street urchin and occasional thief. "We made some people suffer and we suffered. We lost everything. Like millions of others, Liang made his way to Beijing for a glimpse of Mao, the Great Helmsman. On the way home he saw Red Guards gang-raping a female comrade. "That was common. Chaos, everything was chaos. There were no rules."

Liang was sent to the countryside with his now-disgraced father. During two years of rural banishment he was shocked by the peasants' misery, the poverty which the Maoist revolution had not touched. "Many families only had one pair of trousers."

What saved Liang Heng was his height. He is 6ft 11in, gigantic for a southern Chinese, and provincial basketball coaches spotted a potential star. He returned to Changsha and for a year played basketball. But Liang had undesirable parents and relatives in Taiwan, and in China a bad political background is never forgotten. The team's political cadre stopped him from playing. "It was always there," Liang gestures behind him. "My background — like a shadow, like a scar on my back."

In 1977, when he was 23, Liang took the entrance exams for the local teachers' college. The first essay was "The words I have in my heart to tell the Party." What Liang actually had in his heart was a life of accumulated bitterness. Instead he wrote: "The Party raised me as a true son of the revolution. A thousand poems, ten thousand songs cannot express my loyalty to the Party."

It got him into the college. And in 1979 he met Judy Shapiro, daughter of

an American psychoanalyst and a student of Chinese, who was a visiting lecturer in English. He told her his story, and they fell in love.

For fruitless months they petitioned the local authorities for permission to marry. In the end they wrote to Deng Xiaoping, who astonishingly, and immediately, agreed.

Liang is convinced that little has changed in China. Those who took advantage of the brief Beijing Spring of 1979 to call for a degree of democracy are serving indeterminate sentences in "re-education through labour centres".

After the Cultural Revolution, Liang taught in a Chinese school and was dismayed to see history repeating itself. "I really worry about this generation," he says. "It's like us all over again, learning to be good children of the Party." He told his students that in that very school, during the Cultural Revolution, Red Guards had killed one another in factional battles. The children gazed at "They hadn't been told. No one in China wanted to talk about shame. Even my father, after all his suffering, won't blame the Party, only some of its policies."

What will happen next? "God died in China, when Mao died," Judy says. Liang says: "They are used to powerful leaders. Who will follow Deng? He's powerful enough to control the army. After him things could come apart."

"We had beautiful ideas. Mao became our first father, especially when our own fathers were disgraced. We dreamed about giving ourselves to the communist cause. But the revolution, for me, for my family, for my friends, for the peasants, for all persons I know — it was a tragedy."

Son of the Revolution by Liang Heng and Judith Shapiro is published on Monday by Chatto and Windus at £9.95



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

ON TO SALFORD

Now that the trade unions have shown the way, the political parties have to prove at their own annual conferences that they too can adapt constructively to the new political landscape. For the unions, it was a painful adjustment, still perhaps accomplished more in the head than in the heart. For the Social Democratic Party, which meets next week in Salford, and for the Liberals, who gather in Harrogate the following week, the new state of affairs is a tantalising one, presenting simultaneously dangers usually associated either with success or with failure.

Votes cast for the Alliance came close to the levels at which the present electoral system may capriciously accord large rewards, but their parliamentary representation is relatively puny. The Social Democrats, with only six seats, will find it particularly challenging to sustain an initiative in the Commons for years on end.

The antics this summer of some Liberal figures must have reminded the SDP that partnership may be a liability as well as a help, and reinforced caution about closer links. But the problem of whether to move into closer association or cherish their separate identities is still the most obvious issue that faces the two parties - though not necessarily the most important one. Their policies are similar, the election necessarily led them to co-ordinate their efforts in the constituencies. The next step

would be to introduce joint selection of candidates for next year's elections to the European Parliament. Local workers in some parts of the country mean to go ahead with joint selection in any case.

The best course would be to avoid imposing rules on a process which must develop naturally or not at all. The situation is reminiscent of the attempts in the 1970s to reunite the Anglican and Methodist Churches. The very prospect of a scheme of union caused many members of both churches to feel that their customs and strongly-held loyalties were threatened. The abandonment of the scheme enabled churchmen to find their way towards unity at the pace they preferred. SDP leaders are well aware of the dangers, as Dr David Owen makes clear in the interview reported today. Joint selection is strictly incompatible with the SDP's central commitment to "one member one vote", but even so the leadership means next week to oppose equally amendments to the party's declaration on joint selection that would either rule it out or open the way to it other than in "exceptional" cases.

It would be a mistake for the SDP conference to devote too much of its attention to these issues. What the party needs is to present itself to the public as possessing a coherent and distinctive point of view. It has no shortage of declared policies - indeed, the activity of the last

eighteen months has probably left it with a surplus of policy pronouncements than any other party. Much of this is academic, however, and remote from the issues which will be at the forefront of public debate in the coming months. Policy commitments which are too elaborate are apt to become a liability with time. It is important to minimize the policy-lumber while presenting clear relevant comment on immediate issues.

The central issue of national policy remains that of managing the economy, and here the SDP is at its weakest. Its proposals for the control of incomes through a special tax, reaffirmed by Dr Owen yesterday, do not bear the weight placed upon them. On defence, the party as a whole is more seriously infected with unilateralism than Dr Owen would wish - though still much less so than the Liberals. But the most searching policy debate in the months ahead is likely to be over how to reconcile the ideals of the welfare state with the available resources. To many Tories, it seems a simple problem of cutting the coat according to the cloth; to most of the Labour Party, a simple matter of defending threatened social provision. The SDP, whose chosen conference meeting-place implicitly proclaims its sense of how urgent these issues are, should seek to identify priorities and reconcile the conflicting social and economic imperatives.

FRAGMENTS OF THE FORTIES

Few of Britain's national institutions can have changed as rapidly or as radically in the last five years as British Petroleum, Britain's largest private sector company. Having been goaded into a decisive reappraisal of its role by a combination of Arab nationalism, turbulent oil prices, and global economic recession, a company that was once widely regarded as little more than a rich and benevolent commercial arm of the British Empire abroad has emerged in the early 1980s as one of the most aggressive, cost-conscious and profit-oriented companies in British industry.

It is therefore ironic that BP should have found itself drawn so often into confrontation this year with the government. This week the company has again apparently found itself in the government's bad books with its announcement of an ingenious plan to auction off part of its holding in the Forties field.

Despite the politicians' reservations, in this case it is hard to find much merit in the case

against what BP is proposing. In essence, the company's scheme is to sell the most highly taxed part of the Forties field's production to oil companies which are able to offset drilling expenditure in other parts of the North Sea against the field's profits in a way that BP, which has used up all its relevant tax allowances, is unable to do. As such, it is a legitimate and indeed logical attempt to rationalize the oil industry's holding of North Sea assets in a way that is most beneficial to all the companies concerned. There is no question of the deal being illegal or in any way improper. Many of the beneficiaries will be the very small and independent British exploration companies that the Government is committed to encouraging.

The Government has argued so far merely that it will have to consider the broader implications of the plan, including the impact on the Treasury's likely North Sea revenues. One difficulty is that while nobody disputes that there will be a

short-term loss of revenue to be borne by the Exchequer, nobody can estimate at this stage what the cost will be. Estimates range from £30m to £75m a year over the next three years.

The Government has a proper concern to ensure that the taxpayer is not deprived of his legitimate share of the "economic rent" from what has been a highly profitable exploitation of most North Sea oil fields. It is fair to say that the Forties field, which has long since recovered its costs, is only now producing profit; the question is how the profit should be divided between the nation and the company that took the risk of seeking and developing the oil. To veto the deal simply because it could have a short-term adverse impact on Government oil revenues would be both unsound and inequitable. In this case the loss of revenue is likely to be recovered several times over in later years from the development of other North Sea projects which the more efficient use of oil taxation allowances will allow.

But if the Soviet Union are indeed going to shoot down all "intruders" into that airspace, they must surely make quite clear where it begins. This they do not do: the actual extent of "internal waters" that they claim for their many thousand mile long Arctic coast is not known internationally; nor, consequently, is the outer edge of their territorial sea known either - only that it is 12 miles further out.

The reason for their silence on this matter is that they would like to claim larger areas of the Arctic Ocean than international law probably allows.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH YOUNG,
100 Baywater Road, W2,
September 8.

Compensation for plane victims

From Mr Keith Evans

Sir, Peter Martin's article (feature, September 8) on the legal implications of the shooting down of the Korean airliner is, I fear, misleading. Speaking with all the authority of an editor of England's leading text book on air law, he states categorically: "every possible step should be taken to avoid the wasteful and destructive litigation already begun in the US".

He says that Korean Air Lines and their insurers ought to be relieved of the heavy financial burden of compensating the victims' families. He suggests that if there is to be any compensation at all it should be got by diplomatic or inter-bureaucratic negotiation.

Two things ought to be made clear. First, the "wasteful and destructive litigation already begun in the US" consists of claims by dependents of dead passengers brought against Korean Air Lines and brought on the basis that the airline was guilty of willful misconduct in allowing its Boeing 747 to be in the danger zone at all.

That airliner was equipped with an inertial navigation system and probably a Loran (long range navigation) system as well. These systems were backed up by the established radio beacons and by Japanese ground radar. It is almost unthinkable that the Boeing could have got into the position it was in unless the pilots steered it there intentionally or were to all intents and purposes asleep at the wheel.

Either way the airline and its insurers would be liable to compensate the victims' dependents. In these circumstances it is difficult to see how or why any lawyer who knows his subject should send away a widow, telling her that she doesn't have a case. She does.

Second, if these dependency claims are successful the damages could be American sized damages and by English standards enormous. The insurers could have to pay very heavily indeed and, as is the almost universal case, it is Lloyds of London who are the insurers. When, therefore, a distinguished English solicitor writes your columns to castigate the American claims as "wasteful and destructive litigation" without referring to the other side of the coin the record clearly needs to be set straight.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH EVANS,
1 Grays Inn Square, WC1,
September 8.

From Mrs Elizabeth Young
Sir, The Soviet authorities are claiming the right to shoot down aircraft that "violate the Soviet State border". It is, of course, internationally recognized that Soviet airspace consists of that above the Soviet Union's land areas and its territorial waters, and that within it Soviet sovereignty obtains.

But if the Soviet Union are indeed going to shoot down all "intruders" into that airspace, they must surely make quite clear where it begins. This they do not do: the actual extent of "internal waters" that they claim for their many thousand mile long Arctic coast is not known internationally; nor, consequently, is the outer edge of their territorial sea known either - only that it is 12 miles further out.

The reason for their silence on this matter is that they would like to claim larger areas of the Arctic Ocean than international law probably allows.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH YOUNG,
100 Baywater Road, W2,
September 8.

EEC expenditure

From Mr Stanley Budd

Sir, Can Sir John Acland (September 2) be more explicit? In Scotland we are very proud of how European Community aid is used, and more than glad to investigate criticism.

But I have no record of EEC aid for river banking work in the north of Scotland costing either £180,000 or £120,000. Nor does the Scottish Office.

If Sir John is writing of work at Achnabourin, in Sutherland, the only project I have been able to trace which resembles his description, I fear he has been sadly misinformed. The total cost of the scheme was £37,000, not £180,000. It was not borne by the EEC but, very largely, by the Crofters' Commission - which, of course, receives help, indirectly, from various Community sources. Thirty-seven acres, not three acres were involved. The operation was for reclaiming, as well as preserving agricultural land.

In short, unless Sir John has somewhere else in mind, your readers have been sold down the river.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY BUDD,
Representative for Scotland,
Commission of the European Communities,
7 Alva Street, Edinburgh.

Belt-pinching

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir, I most heartily support Mr Oliver Smedley's desire (August 23) to see cities which contain green areas either in formal urban spaces like squares or, informally, in parks and gardens. In the words of the old Arabic proverb: "You don't build just with bricks and mortar; you also use sky, greenery and water".

On the other hand, Mr Smedley is sadly mistaken in his view of green belts. The role which these have played in conserving open countryside around our major cities and larger towns is not only of enormous importance in agriculture and landscape resource terms, but it also preserves the integrity of many smaller free-standing market towns and small villages which might well otherwise have been submerged in urban sprawl.

Vital need for alternative energy

From Professor E. Arthur Bell

Sir, In opening the World Petroleum Congress, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales made a plea for the development of new sources of energy. This theme was taken up by Mr C. D. Masters, of the US Geological Survey, and your own Energy Correspondent referred (report, September 1) to estimates that the world's oil could run out in 66 years.

Oil is more than a source of energy, however. The organic compounds in oil and coal are the raw materials of much of our chemical industry.

Green plants are the only organisms capable of utilising atmospheric carbon dioxide for the synthesis of organic compounds. Coal and oil are both of biological origin and the organic compounds in them owe their existence, directly or indirectly, to the photosynthetic capacity of countless generations of long-dead plants.

Before the industrial revolution man lived within the world's income. His numbers and standards of living were sustained and constrained by the capacity of green plants, fuelled by sunlight, to turn carbon dioxide into food and firewood.

When James Watt developed the steam engine he opened the world's savings bank and showed us how to spend the money: the coal and oil that had been accumulating over hundreds of millions of years. By

using this capital at an ever-increasing rate, we have raised food production and living standards in the developed world and population levels almost everywhere. In 1800, the world population was 1,000 million; it is now approaching 5,000 million.

When the savings provided by those long-dead plants are finally exhausted, whether in 66 years or 166 years, we shall be dependent on the living plants, not only for our greatly inflated food requirements, but also for the chemical intermediates, solvents, drugs, plastics, insecticides, fungicides and all other products which we have come to expect from our coal and oil-based industry.

It is imperative that we develop alternative energy sources; it is equally imperative that we halt the wholesale destruction of the world's remaining forests and wilderness areas (an area of tropical rain forest approximately equivalent to that of England and Wales is being cut down every year) and exercise responsibility in the conservation and cultivation of our ultimate resource, the plant kingdom.

If we fail in either task, there will be nowhere to turn when the oil runs out. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
E. ARTHUR BELL, Director,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew,
Richmond,
Surrey.

Redundant church

From Sir John Barnes

Sir, Mr Stamp (feature, August 29) air tests were taken at St Wilfrid's, Brighton, in 1978 and 1979. They showed that, while there was no immediate health danger, the ceiling had deteriorated between the two tests and was a real potential danger. Analysis of the asbestos coating also showed that its bonding was failing, probably through mould caused by condensation. So "sealing in by paint" is unlikely to succeed.

But asbestos is not the only problem. A site far from the town centre, lack of parking facilities, an inadequate heating system, as well as the cost of repairs, have all deterred potential users.

During the three-year waiting period, apart from more casual inquiries, 13 applicants have taken a serious interest in adapting the building to a wide variety of purposes. Our committee has worked closely with them, trying to meet their requirements. They all decided they could not afford to take the church.

The estimate of some £118,000 to put the church in order was only obtained earlier this year. It cannot have deterred most potential purchasers. Mr Stamp says it "may be much too high". But it came from a reputable professional source and was considered by a widely represented group. Of the total, the actual removal of asbestos amounted to less than £14,000.

We might have disposed of the church more easily if large new entrances could be driven through the walls or the interior divided by new walls and floors. Would the Thirties Society have welcomed this?

There is no "lack of communication" between those concerned with redundant churches. We are all struggling together to preserve important churches. In the Chichester diocese, luckily, few are redundant. But in six years we have found alternative uses for seven, preserved two under the Redundant Churches Fund and demolished only three.

The Thirties Society has a special interest in St Wilfrid's, consecrated in 1933. The Church must take a wider view. It is not an architectural pressure group. Its values cannot be primarily artistic. Its resources must be devoted, not to bricks and mortar, however elegant, but to the religious needs of its clergy and people. Of course, it must also care for its buildings, but even then for those which are needed and used, not those which are redundant.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BARNES, Chairman,
Chichester Diocesan Redundant Churches Uses Committee,
Hampton Lodge,
Hursley, Hampshire.

Motorway accidents

From Mr Stephen Plowden and Mr Mayer Hillman

Sir, Professor Cantill's letter (August 27) gives the impression that the 55 mph speed limit in the United States has been completely ineffective as a means of reducing accidents. This is not correct.

Various statistical studies have shown that the effect has been substantial, particularly on the most severe accidents.

For example, one study concluded that the overwhelming proportion of the reduction in traffic fatalities in the United States between 1973 and 1974, which amounted to more than 9,000, was due to the imposition of the speed limit. Other countries which lowered their speed limits following the 1973 oil crisis have had similar experiences.

In New Zealand speed limits on rural roads were reduced from 60

mph or, more commonly, 55 mph to 50 mph. The trend of fatalities on these roads had been upwards, but in the 12 months following the change in speed limits they fell by 37 per cent.

It is, nevertheless, quite true that the limits are frequently disregarded; if compliance could be assured, the results would no doubt be much more favourable. There seems to be no reason why vehicles capable of travelling substantially faster than the national limit should be permitted at all and advances in micro-electronics should make the automatic enforcement of lower limits feasible and cheap.

This is a neglected topic which would repay detailed technical investigation.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN PLOWDEN
MAYER HILLMAN,
Policy Studies Institute,
1/2 Castle Lane, SW1.

US foreign policy

From Mr M. R. D. Foot

Sir, An article, today (August 5) about American foreign policy by Richard Owen mentions the established Russian belief - widely shared elsewhere - that the regime of Allende in Chile was deliberately "destabilized" by American effort.

As long ago as September 18, 1974 William Colby - then head of the CIA - had a letter in the *New York Times* denying this, and all the

details are given in David Atlee Phillips' book, *The Night Watch* (Robert Hale, London, 1978), pages 252-4.

It is quite clear that the allegation about destabilizing Allende was made by a congressman who did not love CIA, and has no basis in fact; might it now be dropped from the vocabulary of honest students of international affairs?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
M. R. D. FOOT,
88 Heath View, N2,
August 5.

High spirits at Lord's

From Mr G. N. Watts

Sir, Alan Gibson's plaintive outcry about the so-called "bad behaviour" of the Somerset followers at Lord's last Saturday was unjustified and intolerant. His assertion that the normal behaviour expected should be one of "bucolic calm" was both pompous and patronising.

There can never be any excuse for drunken brawling around the boundaries of cricket fields, either at Lord's or elsewhere, and Alan Gibson would be right to condemn it. Noisy high spirits are quite a different matter. They are akin to

the ribaldry of an Elizabethan audience at the Globe theatre or an Edwardian gallery at a Palace of Varieties. Such behaviour is, I believe, both acceptable and indeed adds spice and vigour to the proceedings, even if the sentiments expressed are at times repetitive and inane.

Heaven forbid that all cricket spectators should sit wearing calm bucolic stiff upper lips and MCC ties, as Alan Gibson seems to want.

Yours faithfully,
GERRY WATTS,
14 Chapelfield,
Oakhill,
Bath,
September 6.

I would also suggest that the tower block residential developments of the Sixties owe more of their raison d'être to the filtration of some of the architects of the time with the concepts and forms of abstract art than to the restrictions on residential land imposed in the early development plans and their reviews.

We have, over the last twenty years in this country, sought to conserve the best of both our urban and rural environments. In most of our towns and cities today, the pattern is for new development of all types to be closely integrated with the present urban fabric and this has been achieved alongside the existence of green belts. Examples have been recognised by Civic Trust and other awards and I have no doubt that our existing policies will continue to enable these successes to be achieved.

I do not want to suggest for one moment that the process of planning our cities should be inflexible. It is certainly true to say that in some cases it is appropriate to modify the precise boundaries of existing green belts to reflect a contemporary appreciation of their role and the priorities associated with the various contributory factors.

However, this is a very different approach from the one advocated by Mr Smedley and I hope that he and the others will reflect on the significance of this continuing role for the green belt concept for many years to come.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FINNEY, President,
The Royal Town Planning Institute,
Leeds City Council,
Headrow Buildings,
44 The Headrow,
Leeds,
August 23.

Not seeing trees for the concrete

From Lord Dulverton

Sir, It looks as though Simon Jenkins had better stay in the towns, for which he expresses such affection and understanding, rather than diving off into a countryside, of which he reveals a wealth of ignorance, and writing the sort of diatribe that appeared in *The Times* of September 1.

Mr Jenkins gives no mention of the greatest threat to the countryside, which is the disappearance under bricks, concrete and tarmac of an area equivalent to Leicestershire every 10 years; but perhaps, with his predilection for urban situations, he would not find this trend unacceptable.

Leaving aside the effects of an agricultural revolution, which must indeed be tempered by greater sensitivity than has often been the case in recent years towards amenity and conservation interests, Mr Jenkins' attack upon the nation's efforts to re-establish some tree cover in the now bare uplands, is typical of the largely urban paranoias.

"Serried rows of conifers" is the most hackneyed of them all. Yet how would he set about restoring tree cover; and has he observed what these "serried rows" become after a couple of thinnings? I and other foresters could show him, if he took the trouble to come and see.

He damns plantation forest as not being "true woodland", a replacement of the noble forests cut down in the industrial revolution. Does he not know that they were cut down and burnt down long before and subsequent to that? It would be fascinating to know how he would set about reproducing the old natural forest cover, on soils that had become seriously degenerated by burning and grazing, such as on the peat-covered wastes of Rannoch Moor.

Unless he can tell us how to do this, and increase the needed timber and shelter from the devastated hill areas of Britain, might I respectfully suggest that he leaves it to others, who find the countryside far from dull, to grapple with countryside affairs, of which they have knowledge, and that he beats a fairly instant retreat to his beloved cities?

Yours faithfully,
DULVERTON,
Batsford Park,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire,
September 5.

New money for Brazil

From Mr Guy Huntrods

Sir, Your leading article today on "Brazil and the Banks" (September 9), in which I am mentioned by name, is based on a misconception. In the interview which I gave your correspondent in my capacity as a Deputy Chairman of the International Advisory Committee of Banks for Brazil, I was not, as you imply, asking for banks "to be relieved of commercial risks retrospectively".

I was saying that if there is to be new money advanced to Brazil in an international exercise organised by the IMF, then Governments, as the other major creditors of Brazil, besides the banks, will have to make their contribution also to this new money. This has been common ground in other major rescheduling exercises such as those for Poland and Mexico.

Yours faithfully,
GUY HUNTRODS,
40-66 Queen Victoria Street, EC4,
September 9.

'Typically British'?

From Sir Michael Edwards

Sir, Last Saturday I arrived at Heathrow on a British Airways flight from Europe. For the twentieth time in a handful of years I was ashamed of our airport services.

The crew of the plane were understandably embarrassed and angry, for yet again the landing jetty was out of action. I was assured that it wasn't the fault of British Airways, that they have no say in the maintenance of the jetties. One official even pointed out that the equipment was not British, but Dutch.

The fact is that Germans and non-British on the plane muttered: "typically British" . . . "this is the fifth time it's happened to me this year", and other comments not conducive to building Britain's image for reliability. Not helpful to our image as an exporter.

When we eventually reached the airport building - at the extreme end - the people conveyor had a large notice proclaiming that it was out of action. Older passengers struggled with heavy hand luggage.

I don't know whether the baggage-handling equipment was in operation - like many people I carry hand baggage to avoid that particular Heathrow trap.

Who, if anyone, is responsible for maintaining handling equipment at Heathrow, and is the unreliable equipment indeed foreign? And why do we persist in the use of equipment that is out of service for much of the time?

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL EDWARDS,
90 Long Acre, WC2,
September 7.

Figures in a twist

From Mr Keith Johnson

Sir, Today (September 6) you announced the advent of National Numeracy Week from September 12 to 19.

I make that an eight day week. Does it still count? Yours faithfully,
KEITH JOHNSON,
15th Floor,
Cable Cross House,
159 Pilgrim Street,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
September 6.

23 Travel: Roots and peanuts in The Gambia; Fare deals; a trek through Tuscany; Collecting: Old postcards; Eating Out; and Drink

4 Values: Double glazing; Seeing through the sales talk; Shopfront: Bags and nighties; In the Garden: Laying a lawn

THE TIMES Saturday

5 Review: Paperbacks of the month, including new cookbooks; Critics' choice of what's on in the Theatre and at the Galleries

7,8 Preview: Films, Music, Dance, Films on TV; Prize concise crossword; Family Life; Bridge; Chess; and The Week Ahead

10-16 SEPTEMBER 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Playing with fire, tampering with history

In the heart of rural Yorkshire the wargamers gather to reenact Waterloo. Can Bonaparte beat the British, or will Wellington win again? Peter Waymark reports

Napoleon's last bid for glory has got off to a cracking start. The British forces under the Duke of Wellington, having landed at Ostend and Antwerp and advanced towards Paris, have been engaged near Mons and repulsed. Wellington has been forced back to Brussels.

Even more heartening for the French, the Prussian army coming down from Namur has been routed with appalling casualties. The latest estimates are 15,000 dead and the Prussians are no longer a significant force in the campaign. As Napoleon sits to write his despatches he can afford a smile of satisfaction.

But he knows that he still has a formidable task. The Russians are advancing from the east and even if the French beat them, which seems unlikely, there are still the Austrians. Meanwhile, Wellington is busy reorganizing his forces to the north.

The only hope is to pick off the enemy forces one by one. If the Russians can be conquered, the Austrians may not have the stomach to go on. But Napoleon, interviewed later by our correspondent, is gloomy: "We could have won, given the right circumstances, but it looks like a lost cause now."

Back in Brussels, for the moment remote from the action, the Duke of Wellington is quietly confident of an allied victory. Though a weak Anglo-Dutch division is being badly mauled by three divisions of the French Imperial Guard, the engagement buying time for the slow-moving Russians to advance.

The decisive battle is about to be joined near Soissons. On the one side the French, on the other the Russians and the Anglo-Dutch, with the Austrians coming up in the rear. It looks as if Wellington and his men will hardly be needed.

As most schoolboys know, it did not happen like this. In the real battle of June 1815, Wellington, with not inconsiderable help from the Prussians, was the hero of the allied victory and the name which everyone remembers is not Soissons but Waterloo.

What we are witnessing is a 1983 recreation of the Napoleonic wargaming, played by wargamers. For these enthusiasts fighting a battle means poring over special soldiers one inch high, deploying a terrain of chipboard and painted green and brown to look like countryside, with Polyfilla roads and rubberized horse-hair trees.

They are playing on what is deemed to be the biggest wargames layout in the world: two tables 30ft by 6ft with a gap in the middle which represents the river. The battles, which can spread over several days, are usually fought. The wargamers assemble at 9.30 in the morning. Lunch is usually a snack in the hands; they come back after dinner and have been known to slog it out through the night.

Ten players are acting out Napoleon's last stand, five on the French side and five for the allies. Each takes the part of a commander. "Napoleon" is Wyn Lloyd Jones, aged 23, from Bangor in North Wales, and he has joined the others for a wargames holiday run by Peter Gilder, a former RAF pilot.

It is his fifth visit, a chance to share his hobby with like types. Though he has his own terrain at home, and plays at the University of North Wales wargames club, opponents are not always easy to come by. But if he is reduced to playing on his own, there is a Solo Wargames Society to advise him.

Playing Wellington is Richard Morrill, a 17-year-old student from Hull. His path into wargames was a fascination from a very early age, with military history. He entered the fray with an advantage since he has a Napoleonic layout at home across which many a shot has been exchanged with a willing father.

The epic battle is unfolding behind a 300-year-old white-washed building called The Enchanted Cottage. Peter Gilder's home near Scarborough, where he was in the RAF for 12 years, then went into the aircraft industry, and he came to wargames late and by accident. Recreating from a broken leg, he happened to read an article in the magazine by one of the leading British wargamers, Don Featherstone, and was hooked.

That was around 1960, when wargaming was a much smaller activity than it has since become. As Gilder puts it: "If you played with toy soldiers, it was not something you talked to your neighbour about." To get a game with Featherstone, he travelled all the way from Lancashire to Southampton.

He started with a box of plastic Airfix figures and then went on to design his own. His sculptures were taken up by a company in Huddersfield and have been sold around the world. Four years ago he started wargames holidays and now they are his full-time occupation. For the past 14 years he has been in the happy position of being able to earn a living from his hobby.

The wargamers who come to The Enchanted Cottage (they stay at a hotel in Filey and commute) are usually male. They include bank managers, barristers and estate agents, and have ranged in age from a lad of 12 to a former Luftwaffe pilot in his early seventies.

The Napoleonic campaigns are the most popular, largely due to the fascination of Napoleon himself. The American Civil War comes next (Gilder staged the

Hard lessons to learn at Potsdam

battle of Gettysburg played by Edward Woodward and adversary in the film of *Callan*; then the Second World War, with the D-Day action generally considered to provide the best game; and finally the ancients - Greeks, Romans, Persians, Egyptians.

The games start from the actual troop deployments and proceed according to a detailed book of rules devised by Gilder. The rules for the Napoleonic battles run to 62 pages but, you are assured, are not nearly as complicated as they look. Depending, largely, on the skill of the players, history can be rewritten. In a wargame, it is quite possible for Napoleon to win the battle of Waterloo.

Infantry, cavalry and artillery move according to the book, their progress measured with a ruler. On Gilder's terrain, the ground scale is 1ft to 100 yards, and one figure stands for 20 men. Casualties are indicated, prisoners are taken and medals awarded for gallantry; even such intangibles as morale can be built in.

The rules set out a series of probabilities, based on the best available records. They lay down, for instance, that an attack by a certain number and type of troops, using particular weapons, will, on average, result in X number of casualties. But to make the game more interesting and to introduce an element of chance, dice are thrown to establish whether, on this occasion, casualties were average (signified by a throw of three or four), or greater (five or six) or less (one or two). Dice are also used to work out the size of morale, a fine tuning of such elements as numbers of casualties, proximity of the enemy and amount of cover.

The simulation of battles is probably as old as warfare itself and is the basis of one of the most enduring of all games, chess. The modern hobby of wargaming can, however, be attributed - if indirectly - to none other than Napoleon and his defeat of the Prussian armies.

Smashing from these reverses, the Prussian officers sat down in their staff college in Potsdam and tried to work out where they had gone wrong. They did so by means of the *Kriegspiel*, the direct German translation of "wargame", setting out blocks of wood on tables of sand.

The *Kriegspiel* became a serious aid to military training in the Prussian army and as officers left the service they took the principles with them and played for fun. This, in turn, gave a boost to the manufacture of German toy soldiers, acknowledged to be the best in the world.

In Britain the hobby was stimulated by two famous literary figures. During the early 1890s, while co-editing *Devon*, Robert Louis Stevenson played out battles using toy soldiers, on a map chalked on an attic floor, with his stepson, Lloyd Osbourne, who later described the games in a magazine article.

Then in 1913 H. G. Wells published a book called *Little Wars* and subtitled "a game for boys from 12 years of age to 150 and for that more intelligent sort of girls who like boys' games and books". It was one of the first attempts in English to lay down coherent rules for wargaming. Wells based his game on colonial warfare, with mock cannon fire.

The revolution against war after the 1914-18 conflict put the hobby back for a time and it took the Second World War to encourage a revival. In the United States army, staff officers staged mock-ups of historical and modern battles using maps and numbered pieces of cardboard, and after the war hundreds of officers continued to work out such manoeuvres for their amusement.

This led to a second period - the board game - which was pioneered in America and developed side by side with the traditional British figure game. Board games comprise a map and a series of pieces, giving the name of the unit, its fire power, state of morale, leadership, fatigue and so on. One of the most elaborate, *The Longest Day*, based on the D-Day landings, has a map board 7ft by 5ft, with 4,000 pieces. It can take several weeks to play.



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In the late 1960s a third strand was added. Playing a medieval figure game at Lake Geneva in Wisconsin, one Gary Gygax found himself identifying not with an entire army but with a particular character who stood out above the rest. From this emerged the role-playing game, now the fastest growing type. The most famous example is *Dungeons and Dragons*.

Role-playing games crossed the Atlantic mainly through university contacts and there is hardly a university in Britain today that does not have either a wargames or a *Dungeons and Dragons* society. Sales of such games have been rising by 30 to 50 per cent a year since they first began to take off in the mid 1970s.



A fourth type of war game is starting to appear and that is the computer simulation. A market that is sure to grow with the upsurge in home computers, it can already boast such titles as *Tigers in the Snow* (Eastern front battles of the Second World War), *Close Assaults* (general tactical exercises from the same war) and *Legionnaire* (which, by contrast, goes back to the ancient Romans).

Board and figure games are, in a sense, complementary. The scale of the board enables a whole campaign to be fought, while a table top lends itself better to a battle. The first can be said to represent strategy and the second tactics.

Board games have two clear advantages. The first is cost. They start at around £5 and most sell at between £9 and £11. Metal soldiers, on the other hand, can be as much as 20p each (and that is before they are painted); to make up a Greek army can cost £70. The other is convenience. A board and counters need take up little space and can be packed away afterwards. A terrain is bigger and more permanent, requiring ideally an attic or spare

bedroom that is devoted to nothing else. But for many the true wargame is still played with metal soldiers on a terrain. As Richard Morrill puts it: "To me a counter just does not have the same appeal as 20 guys on horseback". Wyn Lloyd Jones prefers figures for their colour and realism and says he is unable to take *Dungeons and Dragons* seriously.

For Peter Gilder the attraction of wargaming has three facets. First, the historical research. It is not essential to know much about the actual battle to play wargames successfully but wargamers invariably want to know what really happened, if only to be able to compare notes.

Second, there is the joy of modelling. As well as playing sessions, Gilder runs entire weeks devoted to modelling techniques. Making the villages and hills, and painting the figures, can be almost as satisfying as playing the game. Third, the game itself. Peter Gilder has been British wargames champion and has twice won the nearest thing to the world championship, the competition run by the Society of Ancients which draws entries not only from Britain, the acknowledged home of wargaming, but also from France, Germany, New Zealand and South Africa.

Much as he enjoys that competition, he is aware of the danger of taking things too seriously. "When you become the champion, you are like Billy the Kid - everyone is out to get you. It takes the fun away. Here we emphasize the fun element. If we have any aggression we can take it out on those little lead soldiers - and know there will be no lead wounds."

STOP PRESS: The latest news from the battlefield is that the near impossible has happened. Napoleon (left), against the odds, won his decisive encounter with the Russians, the British army has been mopped up as well and the Dutch and Belgians have gone over to the French side.

OFF TO WAR

National Wargames Championships: This annual event, the eighteenth, takes place next weekend in Nottingham. There will be 83 players, one of whom will emerge as the "champion of champions". The periods covered are ancient, medieval, sixteenth-century, Napoleonic, American Civil War, Second World War and modern. Victoria Leisure Centre, Nottingham (0602 556941). Sat and Sun, 10am-5pm. Adults £1, children, students and pensioners 50p; two-day ticket £1.20.

Armageddon 83: A military fair, featuring wargames from ancient Egypt to the present day; displays of military models, uniforms and

equipment; books, models and militaria for sale; and a chance to take part in a Western shoot-out. Hexagon, Reading (0734 59191). Oct 1 and 2, 10.30am-5pm. Adults £1, children, students, pensioners 50p (£1.50 and £1 for the two days).

Games Day: The emphasis is on role-playing games, though the board and figure variety are also represented, and the idea is to encourage spectators to take part. Royal Horticultural Society New Hall, Greycoat Street, London SW1. Nov 4, 10.30am-6pm and Nov 5, 10am-5pm. Admission £1.25 per day. Organized by Games Workshop (741 3445).

Holidays: Peter Gilder, The Wargames Holiday Centre, The

Enchanted Cottage, Felkton, Scarborough (0723 891052).

Shops: Games Centre, 22 Oxford Street, London W1. Branches at 141 New Street, Birmingham; 52/53 Western Road, Brighton; 81 Lister Gate, Nottingham. Games Workshop, 1 Dealing Road, London W8. Branches at Unit 57, West Court Shopping Centre, Birmingham; 143 Marsden Way, Arndale Centre, Manchester; 41a Broadwalk, Broadmarsh Centre, Nottingham.

Magazines: *Military Modelling and Miniature Wargames* concentrate on modelling and figure games; *White Dwarf* and *Imagine* cater mainly for role-playing enthusiasts. Board games are covered by the *American Strategy and Tactics*.

THE TIMES SWEATSHIRT

The classic stretch-knit sweatshirt originated in the U.S.A. as a comfortable easy-fit top for sports and leisure activities. The design, crew-neck with deep raglan sleeves and stretch-knit neck cuffs and hem, makes it a useful multi-purpose garment that offers a practical alternative to traditional pullovers and sweaters for casual and holiday wear.

M.U.S. clothing manufacturer has produced a range of high-quality sweatshirts specifically designed for The Times readers, with the 'The Times' flock printed on the left breast of each shirt. Choose from navy, denim blue (50% cotton/50% acrylic) or grey (50% acrylic/30% polyester/20% cotton). The fabric is fleecy-lined and fully machine washable. The comprehensive range of sizes, from 28in chest to 44in chest should prove suitable for the whole family.



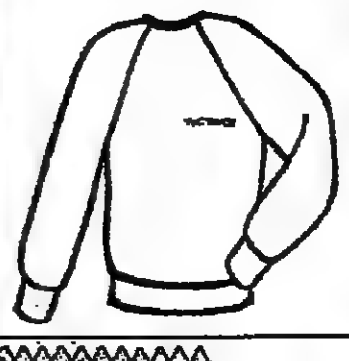
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Water work: Gambian girls carry buckets from the well; visitors bask on near-deserted white sand

Robin Laurance unwinds in The Gambia, where you get your money back if the sun doesn't shine

Back to the roots in a peanut republic

From our vantage point on the upper deck of the Barra ferry, there seemed little doubt that the very next peanut would sink the lighter. But as we looked on to the little jetty, still the nuts scurried and jumped along the conveyor belt and spewed out from the funnel into the overladen vessel. And still the lighter stayed afloat.

Like Jimmy Carter, The Gambia makes its money from peanuts. The country's solitary mill, whose appetizing fragrance had filled our nostrils the day before, was across the mouth of the Gambia river, and no lighterman worth his salt was going to preside over a half-empty vessel. The dolphins which dip their way up and down the river must be used to seeing huge mounds of nuts apparently floating across their path.

This tiny peanut republic - a

narrow finger of land which stretches 300 miles along the Gambia river - has a population of about a million run by a golf-playing president, with two wives, who graduated from Glasgow University as a vet. (The fact that Sir Dawda Jawara is still president is due largely to prompt action by his friends in Senegal aided by two gentlemen from our own Special Air Service, who put down an attempted coup while the president and wife number one were in London for the wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales.)

While peanuts remain the mainstay of the country's economy, there is another commodity whose very considerable potential is still only cautiously being exploited. For five months in the year, the sun shines - and shines. So constant is the climate between

December and April that one travel company even offers its customers a refund if the sun should ever fail to appear. (One hotel assistant manager wears that a Scottish family took it to turn to stay awake during the afternoon siesta just in case a cloud came over.)

And what makes The Gambia even more attractive as a destination for winter sunshine is its location in the same time zone as Britain, which means the six-hour direct flight which leaves London after breakfast delivers you in time for tea with only the mildest ill-effects.

With still only a dozen hotels, long stretches of clean white sand cooled by the occasional palm tree remain almost deserted even at the height of the season. You meet few Europeans when you tread the cockleshell pavements of Banjul; and on the banks of the bolongs among the mangrove swamps, the pelicans, ospreys, herons, egrets and storks seem little troubled by their infrequent visitors. My wife, who wears the binoculars in our family, reported seeing pelicans, ospreys, purple herons, pied kingfishers and sky-blue Abyssinian rollers during one short sortie. And we had only to sit in the hotel garden to watch the smart-crested hoopoe and the brilliantly coloured fish fuchs, and to listen to the pied crows arguing noisily in the trees.

It was the Scandinavians who first put The Gambia on the tourist map - and very nearly wiped it straight off again. The first of the packaged sun-seekers unwrapped themselves completely on the beaches and made only the barest concessions to

modesty when venturing into town. The mullahs - for Islam had stood firm against the onslaught of missionary zeal that had accompanied the Christian colonisers - feared greatly for the moral wellbeing of their people and pleaded with the government either to instigate an immediate cover-up or to send the foreign bodies home again.

The government, desperate for every cent of foreign exchange it could get its hands on, forced a compromise with the result that modesty now prevails in town and bare breasts are confined to hotel pools and adjacent beaches.

But while the Europeans began slowly to focus their attention on this new-found holiday location, it was left to a black American to thrust The Gambia into the public eye. With nothing better to do one wet afternoon, a one-time coastguard officer called Alex Haley set about tracing his family tree. He found its roots 12 years later on the banks of the Gambia river and proceeded to glue millions of television viewers to their sets for the *Roots* series.

Juffure is where Kunta Kinte, Haley's great-great-great grandfather, is supposed to have lived, although the evidence for this particular location does not bear too close an examination. Still, in the absence of any other village claiming parenthood of the celebrated slave, this small and primitive community is worth a visit. Fame has brought a kind of fortune to the place. The new road from Barra is wide and firm - at least, it is in the dry season.

Incongruous and unnecessary street lights tower over the single-

storey homes of mud bricks and straw roofs. If the lights worked - there is no electricity yet - they would, claim the villagers, protect their chickens from the night-time raids of the hyenas. A new mosque has progressed no further than its foundations. Life expectancy in the Gambia is less than 50 and few villagers believe there will ever be a new mosque for them to worship in.

But, as everywhere else in this country, you are greeted with warm open smiles. There is no water in Juffure, but the young girls returning from the well with heavy cans of water on their heads could still all manage a smile. And when the alkali, the village headman, came out to say goodbye he smiled to show his four remaining teeth - one in each corner of his mouth.

Down at the crossroads young boys were scraping the monkey bread from the fruit of the baobab trees. And at the village they call Alibunda, the ancient trading station that once bustled with merchant adventurers, the men were putting the finishing touches to a new dug-out that would supplement the village fishing fleet. Fish from the morning's catch was already drying in the sun. Tonight, as most nights, the villagers would eat their fish with a little rice.

Back at the hotel, we ate peanut stew. And, as we ate, we were treated to the delicate colonial strains of the kora, thumbed so expertly by the most dignified and graceful of minstrels. And here too in this calm and noble face there was the suggestion of a gentle smile.

Best-value tickets to the antipodes Avoiding Apex's pernicious peak



Travellers heading Down Under this autumn will be paying more than before for flights. Although the number of passengers dropped by a third last year, fares were raised a few months ago and a further increase is planned for November.

People going to Australasia can choose from a wide range of airlines and fares. The cheapest fares available is APEX and both that and the discounted fares are priced according to when you travel. That means they fluctuate enormously. A British Airways APEX fare to Sydney in the off-peak season rises to a price of £394 in the peak.

When choosing your route check the total travel time and the number of stops made. If you are prepared to pay a little more, you can often reduce your journey time from a possible 36 hours by as much as 12 hours because some of the cheaper airlines fly roundabout routes with frequent stops.

Inexperienced and elderly travellers may find it worthwhile to join the Australian Family Reunion Club. You do not save anything on your fare but the club provides advice, special offers, escorted flights and assistance at airports.

Australia
APEX: Book at least one month in advance. No minimum stay; maximum one year. One stopover allowed either outbound or return. Depending on the airline this can be in Bombay, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Singapore, Manila, Jakarta, Bali or Perth.

Prices to Sydney: Melbourne or Brisbane are £654 off-peak; £820 shoulder; £934 peak season. To Perth the prices are £620, £774 and £882 respectively.

The seasons are: UK to Australia: Off-peak: 1 April-15 July; 23 Dec-31 Jan. Shoulder: 16 July-31 Aug; 1-30 Nov. Peak: 1 Sept-31 Oct; 1-22 Dec.

Australia to UK: Off-peak: 1 Aug-31 Oct; 24 Dec-15 Jan. Shoulder: 1 Nov-23 Dec; 16 Jan-29 Feb; 16 June-31 July. Peak: 1 Mar-15 June.

These prices are for return travel. If you travel out and back in different seasons take half of each fare and add both together to get the total price.

Excursions: If you cannot book one month in advance, an excursion fare could be the answer. It is slightly more expensive than APEX and is valid for stays of between 14 and 270 days. Stopover allowed as above. Discounted fares via the Far East: Prices were increased substantially last July. In a bid to boost their revenue, all airlines except Air India took travel agents to sell tickets at a certain minimum price. Agents are now selling flights by Garuda and Philippine

Airlines at a 6 per cent discount on the APEX fare. Flights by Malaysian Airlines and Thai are discounted by 4 per cent. Fares for the others are pegged at the same prices that BA and Qantas charge. In all cases APEX booking conditions apply.

Now that agents cannot compete on price they are enticing travellers with all sorts of extras. London-based Reho Travel, for example, provides free insurance and taxi rides to Gatwick airport. The P & O Down Under Club offers rail travel to London, a five-piece set of luggage and stopover holidays.

The cheapest fares without the giveaways are offered by Air India. Agents are selling return tickets to Perth and Sydney at all-year-round prices of £715 and £725 respectively. You can book when you want and stopovers (at £25 a time) are allowed in Bombay, Delhi, Singapore, Perth.

Discounted fares via North America: A seasonal fare structure with prices slightly higher than via the Far East. For many travellers a North American route has a lot to offer. You can book when you want, there are fewer restrictions and a greater choice of stopovers and you can visit both Australia and New Zealand with the same ticket.

The most popular routing via the USA is offered by Reho Travel. You fly to New York, Chicago or Los Angeles then connect with Continental Airlines through to Sydney or Melbourne. Stopovers (some at extra cost) are allowed in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Honolulu, Fiji and Auckland. Typical return fares range from £820 to £940.

You can also travel via Canada at similar fares. The same price takes you from London or other airports to Amsterdam where you connect with the Canadian airline CP Air through to Sydney. Stopovers are possible in Amsterdam, Toronto, Vancouver, Honolulu and Fiji.

New Zealand
APEX: Same seasons as for Australia. Book one month in advance. Minimum stay 21 days; maximum six months. One over-night stop allowed in each direction.

Prices to Auckland are £768 off-peak; £930 shoulder; £1056 peak season. Prices to Christchurch and Wellington are slightly higher. Excursions: Book at any time. Minimum stay 21 days; maximum one year. One stopover allowed for up to seven days in each direction at Singapore, Los Angeles or Tokyo. Costs a little more than APEX but has a common-rail price to Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Discounted fares: Generally speaking, you can book when you want, whether you decide to travel via the Far East or North America. Fares are seasonal and most passengers take the transpacific route, and arrive at Auckland.

The same routes over North America are available with Continental and CP Air with the same stopover possibilities but prices are higher. Many agents sell "consolidation" fares on Air New Zealand's direct flights, again across the Pacific. These consolidation rates work out at about 12 per cent less than the normal APEX price.

Discounted fares available with Singapore Airlines are even cheaper. A peak season return costs almost £200 less than the equivalent APEX fare of £1056. Some agents are able to sell special fares with Qantas. Although these are no cheaper than APEX, you can make stopovers in Singapore and Sydney - ideal if you have relatives in both countries. The same price allows travel to Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch and it is possible to travel to one city and return from another.

Round-the-world option

As the straight out-and-back fares become more expensive people are increasingly turning to round-the-world (RTW) tickets. RTW fares represent one of today's best air travel buys. Provided you meet a few simple conditions an RTW ticket enables you to:

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RTW tickets are available for both first and economy class. The first class tickets are available with combinations of airlines. For example, Cathay Pacific teams up with Pan Am to offer a world ticket costing £2394. Another ticket with British Caledonian in combination with the French airline UTA is even cheaper at £1933. Bear in mind that the normal first class fare for this journey is almost £4000.

There are several economy class RTW fares on the market. An Air New Zealand/British Airways ticket costs £1150 but limits you to seven stopovers. Unlimited stopover tickets are available Qantas/TWA at £1180 (does not include New Zealand) and BCal/UTA at £1150.

Even better value are those RTW fares which specialist agents create themselves. For £925 Reho offer a fixed itinerary covering London - Hong Kong - Sydney - Auckland - Honolulu - Los Angeles - London. A more ambitious route is on offer from Asia Pacific Travel for £1089.

Alex McWhirter

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Travel notes

British Caledonian have regular scheduled non-stop flights to Banjul from London Gatwick. Excursion fare (from Sept 16) is £718 (minimum stay in Africa 19 days).

There are few restaurants outside the hotels, which makes full or half-board a more attractive option than it might otherwise be. December to April are the best months to travel. The African sun, especially when accompanied by a cooling wind, can be deceptively fierce. Calomine lotion should be packed as should anti-malaria pills. Yellow fever immunization is compulsory for entry.

Advice should be sought on other health risks. Cold drinks in overheated stomachs are the most common cause of tummy upsets.

Hotel tap water is safe to drink. Mosquitoes are an evening nuisance.

Film is very scarce and very expensive. Cheap ball-point pens and exercise books should be taken in quantity to placate over-attentive youngsters. Well-crafted gold and silver jewelry can be an excellent souvenir. Bargaining is the order of the day.

A river cruise for two or three nights is well worth considering and can be booked when making your reservations.

The *Gambia - A Holiday Guide* by Michael Torrington (ISBN 0 85030 123 0) is highly recommended. In particular its description of the hotels is worth reading before making your booking.

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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Following, almost, in the footsteps of Hilaire Belloc (left), Richard Wilson set out to walk the 140 miles from Siena to Rome. But he had not bargained for the wayside attractions

Trek through Tuscany

David Hart

We were a curious couple, of course: no one walks in Tuscany unless he is broke or bonkers. My wife's shorts are the ultimate in chic and, while my shorts are not much to write home about, my rucksack is decidedly up-market, broke, clearly, we were not, so...

No one minded though. It was friendliness all the way, and we would have been in a sorry state if we had accepted half the invitations to stop for "a little glass".

At a farm near La Capraia we asked the beaming signora if there was a way through the woods towards the south. "Yes," she said, "but you will never find it." And she called to her son: "Stefano, stir your bones and show our visitors the way to Tuscany." She was right - we would never have found it, but Stefano led us half a mile through the undergrowth.

"Watch out for vipers," he warned, but we didn't see any - not that day, at least. We saw dogs though: a small poodle of them, giant, green ones belching incessantly while they waited for their offspring to sprout legs. And after the rainstorms there were traffic jams of snails and the folk were out collecting them for the pot. In the beech-woods high above the Lago di Vico there were moths galore, brilliant blue with pure white spots on their wings and ostentatious gold rings round their elongated bodies. And where the moths were, there were the wild strawberries.

Occasionally there were families of pheasant or a pair of pigeon but always there were cuckoos. Every Italian is a "hunter" which means that anything that flies is game for the pot, but perhaps cuckoos are exempt. We saw more bird-life in the towns than in the country, so maybe even in Italy you cannot blast off in the market-square.

Oh yes! The markets! Soon after dawn the trestle tables are laden with the fat subergines, the berry peaches, and the shiny black cherries specially designed for us to eat on the march, spitting out the stones without interrupting our stride.

Where does it go, this mass of produce, so fresh and so cheap? It rarely found in the hotels and restaurants. Mind you, once we did put away those enormous bowls of homemade tagliatelle or fettellini alla panna there was not much room for anything else, especially at the friendly Hotel del Bosco at Castagnola where we were rash enough to mention that the long day's walk had sharpened our appetites.

The double portions went down a treat to the accompaniment of the local *vino normale* which, in most hostels, appears in the table in apparently endless quantities and adds nothing to the unbelievably modest bill. My wife is still raving about the red at the charming



Hotel Giglio at Montalcino, and I do recall that we got through quite a lot of it.

You have to be careful, though. Booze accelerates dehydration and you need to drink tubfuls of water if you are hiking any distance in the heat. At Montepulciano they boast of the German bishop Fugger who came for a short visit, got hooked on the local wine, and settled down to drink himself to death.

This cautionary tale played no part in our decision to stay at Montepulciano only as long as it took to enjoy the view from the top of the old town and to eat delectable ice-cream on the stone seats on either side of the entrance arch. Then we pressed on to reach Viterbo in time for dinner at the attractive-looking da Ciro in the via La Fontaine where our evening was ruined by the surliest harrier ever to don waitress apron. It took a good night's sleep at the very reasonable Hotel Tuscany and a dose of the breath-taking Piazza San Lorenzo for us to admit that Viterbo was, after all, worth a visit.

We need not have bothered about Bolsena: we are not that keen on lake-side resorts with scuzzy pizza stalls and modern hotels, overpriced by Tuscan standards and well stocked with bottles from the Rhine and the Moselle. The lake is certainly lovely but it is best seen from the hills, where there are miles of hazel orchards and no pizza stalls. The guide-book missed us about Surti: it is a beautiful little town but we thought we were going to see a Roman amphitheatre. There is one, but it is now all fenced in and plastered with warnings: "Keep out - danger

from falling rocks and hidden wells". The book also fails to mention San Martino al Cimino and Seggiano, but we fell in love with both. We stumbled on the first because we were lost; we explored the second because we thought we would find a bed - but the place has no hotel so we had to tramp on to Pescina.

No book can exaggerate the splendour of the monastery of Monte Oliveto Maggiore. The walled cloisters are a joy and the refectory must be high on the list of the world's most beautiful rooms. In such surroundings how is it that the monks - the few we saw, at least - contrive to look so gloomy? They will willingly provide a bed for the night - you have only to ask - and there is good home cooking at the picturesque restaurant Il Torre just up the hill from the

From the dark doorway of a nearby hotel emerged 20 stone of unshaven villagers. "Come in and eat with the family," he said. We thanked him, but it was our last day in Italy and we wanted to soak up the sun. He did not believe us. Nobody wants to sit in the sun. Clearly, we were just shy. The smile of welcome was almost irresistible, but no, we were firm and suddenly he realized that we meant it and he had refused his hospitality. He shrugged his shoulders and went back into that cool dark room and we got on the bus a couple of hours later with sun-tans and the memory of that injured shrug. They fade quickly, sun-tans.

The Path to Rome by Hilaire Belloc (Allen & Unwin, £4.95). A Penguin edition is planned for publication in June 1984. Asclano is the nearest railway station to Monte Oliveto Maggiore. It is easily reached by rail from Florence or Rome. The route is covered by four military survey maps - Nos 121, 129, 137 and 143 in the 1:100,000 series. They can be ordered through McCarty, 122 King's Cross Road, London WC1. If you like to have all the work done for you, go with Hiking International, 3 East Saint Helen Street, Abingdon, Oxfordshire (OX25 2BSS).

monastery, but we went back into the rain to seek more congenial lodgings.

We dripped into the Albergo Roma at Buonconvento where we wine and dined and bathed and slept and had a couple of beers all for £12 for the two of us. In the morning the kitchen stove had gone out so there was no hot water for a cuppa. But that is no problem in Italy - there is always the cafe-bar up the road open from 5am for coffee and buns or something stronger if you like.

Thanks to us, there are now even a few where they know the rudiments of tea-making. I bet that the chap at the Bar Sport in Buonconvento is still telling his customers about the angelic scream which I let out when I saw him dunk a teabag in a glass of warm milk; and that in the main square at Ronciglione, just up the road from the spectacularly situated Hotel Vecchio Molino, there is a square where you can demonstrate the warming of the tea-pot. Funny places, Tuscan bars: always full of men waving their arms and planning a revolution, but no one ever buys anything.

I nearly forgot our plan was to emulate Hilaire Belloc and walk the 140 miles from Siena to Rome. Belloc's path has long since become autostrada, or fenced-in farmland, so we had to work out our own - with some ideas pinched from a leaflet from Hiking International. We had seven and a half days, which we thought would be ample but we had not bargained for the Italian military survey maps. To be fair, there are parts where they are quite accurate, but I shall not be in the least surprised if I hear one day that the entire Italian army is lost without trace.

Nor had we bargained for the storms and for the lightning which scared us stiff on the high, open farmland. Most of all, we had not allowed for the countless reasons for leaving rather than pressing on: the wild strawberries to be gathered; the hedgerows full of dill and fennel and mint and goodness-knows-what other herbs to tickle the nostrils; the brilliant carpets of poppies to be photographed in contrast to the yellow broom; the steep, narrow, granite-lined streets of the ancient towns; the glorious view from the 4,700ft summit of Monte Amiata which you reach by the ski slopes - the pista panoramica which is gentle, or the pista direttissima which is not quite vertical.

So we had to call it a day at Montepulciano and wait an hour or two for the bus to take us the last 25 miles to Rome. It was midday and the sun was shining properly at last. We settled down on a bench in the little church square and took out our bread and cheese and fleshy, misshapen tomatoes. From the dark doorway of a nearby hotel emerged 20 stone of unshaven villagers. "Come in and eat with the family," he said. We thanked him, but it was our last day in Italy and we wanted to soak up the sun. He did not believe us. Nobody wants to sit in the sun. Clearly, we were just shy. The smile of welcome was almost irresistible, but no, we were firm and suddenly he realized that we meant it and he had refused his hospitality. He shrugged his shoulders and went back into that cool dark room and we got on the bus a couple of hours later with sun-tans and the memory of that injured shrug. They fade quickly, sun-tans.

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Winning cards which deal in the past

Interest in the humble postcard has had an enthusiastic revival in the last few years.

In Edwardian England most families had a postcard album. You could measure a family's status by the postcards it received, whether they came from popular seaside resorts, select watering places, motoring tours in Scotland, or Continental beauty spots. Tens of millions of picture postcards passed through the Royal Mail annually. They cost a halfpenny each to post, could be relied upon to be delivered by the next day, and were used in the same way as the telephone today.

Renowned manufacturers such as Raphael Tuck, Valentine's of Dundee, and Bamford's of Huddersfield produced the cards to satisfy the public demand. A large part of this mass traffic, carefully collected in those Edwardian albums, has been preserved for posterity and has fed the growing taste of modern collectors. Next week they get the chance to indulge their fancy to the full at the British International Postcard Exhibition, (BIPEX), where over a million postcards will be on show. The exhibition, at Kensington New Town Hall from Wednesday until Saturday, will be bringing together collectors of old picture postcards from all over the world, showing a specially mounted exhibition and the stocks of top postcard dealers.

In 1907, hundreds of firms specialized in picture-postcard production today only a handful of these survive, and only a few others have emerged. The golden age of postcard collecting really ended in 1914, though the First World War, with its sentimental and patriotic material, sustained production for another few years. After 1918 the doubling of the postage rate, the advent of the telephone, a change in the



Wish you were here: On the prom in the 1930s



WELL, HE LOOKS A BIT BIG, BUT HE'LL JUST ABOUT MAKE A MEAL FOR THE THREE OF US

Having a lovely war: Donald McGill helps to breed the British bulldog spirit in 1914

national mood, and the end of the use of German printers (much favoured for their superior quality before 1914) all contributed to the virtual demise of the hobby. Resurrection came in the late 1960s, pioneered by a band of collectors who discovered forgotten Edwardian gems in dusty albums. Their enthusiasm, the foresight of a few dealers who began to promote the hobby again and the staging of an exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1970 to celebrate the centenary of the first picture postcard helped to widen interest; the publication of a definitive catalogue in 1975 set the seal on the revival.

Since then, its take-off has been spectacular. Specialist fairs are held regularly in London and many provincial locations, three catalogues are devoted to the hobby (including one by the international stamp firm Stanley Gibbons), a monthly magazine concentrates exclusively on postcards, and leading auction houses, including Sotheby's, Christie's and Phillips in London, hold regular postcard sales.

The postcards reveal the art, humour and attitudes of past

generations, and provide valuable photographic records of places 70 or 80 years ago. It is for the postcards showing scenes in towns and villages (known as topographicals) dating before 1914 that prices are currently rising fastest, as collectors of postcards have been joined by local historians in the quest for photographic material. Almost every conceivable subject, however, can be found on old cards. There are cards featuring the cricket and football teams and heroes of the years before the First World War. Edwardian actors, actresses, and variety artists (for whom the postcard was the best available publicity vehicle), trams, railways, ships and animals. Some advertise products, showing hotels and public houses. Others trace the history of the First World War. Comic postcards reflect Edwardian prejudices, pastimes, hopes and obsessions. The Suffragettes were freely lampooned, as were political personalities such as Lloyd George and Chamberlain.

The postcard boom in Britain did not start until 1902 (when the Postmaster-General allowed the

message to be written on the same side as the address), but picture postcards had been produced on the Continent since 1870 and here since 1894.

The most expensive cards at the moment are the Art Nouveau productions by Alphonse Mucha. Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee cards, and balloon-flight postcards - the best ones will set the buyer back more than £100. The price range can suit everyone's purse, however. Common views and greetings cards go for 10p to 30p each, comic cards for 40p to £1. Photographic street scenes are £2 upwards, artist-drawn glamour £3 to £6 for most, and the scarcer product advertising is usually £15 upwards.

The special displays at BIPEX show work from the Franco-British Exhibition of 1908 and from a comprehensive national competition.

Brian Lund

BIPEX opens Wed, noon-8pm. Thurs and Fri 11am-8pm. Sat 11am-6pm. Entrance costs £1 on first day, 50p thereafter.

EATING OUT

Easy on the pocket, good for the sole

The opening of the oyster season turns our attentions towards the sea. This week we look at two contrasting fish restaurants, while next week oyster bars themselves will come under scrutiny

RUDLAND & STUBBS, 35-37 Greenhill Rents, Cowcross Street, London EC1 (253 0148). Open: Noon-3pm and 5pm-midnight. Set noon-4pm. Set 5pm-11pm. It takes a shrewd business sense and a certain amount of cheek to open a fish restaurant in the heart of Smithfield (a vegetarian restaurant would have been even cheekier), but the combination seems to have brought Messrs Rudland and Stubbs much success. Of course it takes more than just gimmickry to make a catering enterprise work - good food, pleasant surroundings and value for money help as well, and Rudland and Stubbs enjoys all three qualities.

The premises have been converted imaginatively from an old Smithfield warehouse/shop to leave a white-tiled, mirror-clad dining-room and a long comfort-

able oyster-bar. Sawdust on the floor and a range of tasteful piscine posters help to provide atmosphere, though it can be a little stark at night until they dim the lights.

The menu offers no-nonsense, high quality sea-food, from winkles and cockles to Dover sole and Scotch salmon, and there's an appetising range of fish dishes such as baked brown in onion and garlic (£4.50), an excellent, tangy oyster and sole pie (£4.50).

Among the starters, the Essex whitebait (£2.10) are notable for their freshness (no congealed mass here) and for the sheer size of the portions (the plate looks like a whitebait Bordolino). Indeed, freshness is a hallmark of the cooking, and customers are warned that a 20-minute wait is inevitable. On the evidence of a perfectly poached turbot (£5.20), the wait is worthwhile. While simple grilling, poaching or pan-frying is the preferred method of cooking, traditional butter and lemon, parsley butter or Hollandaise sauces are available if required.

For recidivist carnivores there is a small range of Smithfield meat dishes in the old-fashioned mould, including steak and

kidney pie (£3.50) and roast beef salad (£3.90), and in fact the house's set-price Sunday lunch (£6.95 adults, £3.50 children) is based around beef, lamb or duck. Three more points should be made about Rudland and Stubbs - their oysters are Colchester Royals and No 3s (£5 and £4.50 respectively); the daily specials can include such exotics as swordfish steaks (£5.60); and their late closing times make it an ideal venue for those on their way to or from the nearby Barbican.

SEA-SHORE OF HAMSTEAD 309 Finchley Road, London NW3 (262 2000). Open: Noon-2pm and 5pm-11pm. Mon-Sat. Here's more cheek, or at least, whimsical thinking - you couldn't get much further from the sea-shore than the six-lane highway of Finchley Road. Nevertheless, this newly opened fish bar and restaurant deserves attention, not least because its owner is an ex-manager of the highly-praised Sea-shell in Lisson Grove, home of the best fish and chips in London.

Mr Ahmed has obviously brought with him a considerable expertise, and clearly appreciates

that if the fish and chips are good enough people are prepared to eat them sitting down off plates rather than standing up out of newspapers. Hence the basement restaurant here for those wishing to make an occasion of their meal.

I have to say that I don't find the furnishings particularly apt - gold-coloured tubular chairs and smoked-glass tables would seem more at ease in a cocktail bar. The service too is a little on the sketchy side, but it is sure to improve.

What cannot be faulted, however, is the quality of the fish (bought fresh daily) or of the batter (groundnut oil or kosher-style egg and maize meal).

Starters on the menu are negligible - soup, prawn cocktail etc - so head straight for the range of plaice, haddock, skate or halibut, served filleted or on the bone. At the upper end of the scale, they have Dover sole at £6, or fresh salmon at £5.50. These, like all other choices, may of course be cooked without batter, but be aware that the deep-fried lemon sole, which arrives looking like a golden frisbee, is quite delicious.

Stan Hay

DRINK

Supergrape with a perplexing pedigree

If connoisseurs of wine ran a competition to find the world's most versatile variety of grape, America's chameleon-like Zinfandel would surely run out an easy winner. It produces a vast number of wines, from the light, fruity Beaujolais type right through to the big, black gutsy variety, as well as whites and roses, the sweet alcoholic late-harvest Zinfandels, and the méthode champenoise Blanc de Noir bubbly made with Zinfandel as its base.

It is not just that this grape changes dramatically according to the different soil and climate of each Californian wine-producing region but also that the adaptable Zinfandel can take on a totally different character, depending on each wine maker's fermentation and ageing techniques. All this is confusing enough but to make it worse, no one actually knows where the Zinfandel grape came from. The American wine press are full of stories about the mysterious Zinfandel and its pedigree that read like a Victorian melodrama. Originally it was thought that a Hungarian, one Count Haraszthy, brought it to California around 1861, along with dozens of other vines. But then somebody discovered that there was no grape variety grown in Hungary that was similar in any way to the Zinfandel. By this time New Yorkers were claiming documentary proof that the Zinfandel grape was growing



in their East Coast greenhouses at least 30 years before Count Haraszthy ever got to America and that it was they who sent it across the country to California. No doubt the argument raged until the late 1960s when an American professor stopped off in southern Italy on his way back from a European visit, tasted the local wine made from the Primitivo grape and decided that this was none other than the original Zinfandel. Cuttings were sent to Davis - California's oenological headquarters and yes, everyone agreed that Primitivo was indeed the Zinfandel. The latest twist in the Zinfandel tale is that a remarkably similar grape has been discovered growing in Yugoslavia, on the other side of the Adriatic sea from Italy. My own view is that the

chances of the Zinfandel being the Primitivo are fairly slim.

The characteristic that most California Zinfandels do seem to share is what the Americans describe as a "berry fruit flavor". I puzzled over this phrase for ages, until I realised that what the British call brambles are what the Americans describe as berry fruit: this is indeed the hallmark of a good Zinfandel.

When the first Zinfandels came over here about 10 years ago most were chunky, purple-black wines that were almost impossible to taste, let alone drink. It was these that formed the backbone of virtually every Californian blended red, which is not surprising since more Zinfandel is planted there (30,000 acres to be precise) than any other variety. Since then, however, the ones on sale here seem to have softened up tremendously. An excellent example is Sainsbury's own-label Zinfandel, whose full purple colour and soft berry fruit flavour make for a ripe, fruity, elegant glassful and a long, fine, fruity finish (Sainsbury's £2.95).

Paul Masson's 1981 Zinfandel, which has been aged in wood for 14 months, is another good, straightforward wine remarkably similar to Sainsbury's (Fields, 35 Sloane Avenue, London SW3, £3.20).

Sceptics who believe that a great Zinfandel just doesn't exist should try the 1978 Conn Creek

Zinfandel, a deliciously rich wine made from 60-year-old vines (Windrush Wines, The Barracks, Cecil Hill Cirencester, Gloucestershire, £6.64). If you like the sound of those sweet, late-harvest Zinfandels then do try the 1974 Mayacamas Late Harvest Zinfandel that tastes just like a young port. It costs £16.50, a reflection of its alcohol content and its rarity (La Vigneronne, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW7).

The finest Californian Zinfandels come from the Ridge winery. Their magnificent 1980 Geyser-vine, made from 50-year-old vines, has a glorious, intense, rich fruit and eucalyptus flavour and shows the impressive heights that this unusual grape variety can and does reach (Adams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk £9.26).

Jane MacQuitty

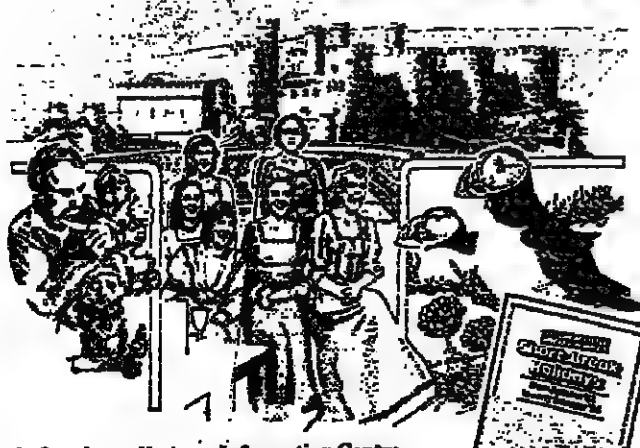
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VALUES

Beryl Downing on the best way to go about securing yourself an airtight deal

Double-glazing: Seeing through sales talk

Cowboys may have disappeared from the cinema screen but they are alive and well and selling double glazing. They all want a stake in a market which is likely to top £500m this year and, just like the movies, it is not all that easy to tell the goodies from the baddies.

Only one thing is certain - anyone considering double glazing should do the fact-finding now. September is discount month with several companies and there is nothing to be gained by waiting until November draughts start caving through the cracks.

There are three main considerations. Is it safe? What will it achieve? What does it cost?

How safe?

Until recently few householders would have put safety first - it simply was not considered until

the Greater London Council Fire Brigade's advertising campaign showed a woman trying to escape from a burning room and failing to break the double glazing with a chair.

The fire brigade emphasize that their main aim is not to condemn all double glazing but to make people aware of the dangers of the type of sealed double glazing units that DIY enthusiasts are most likely to install because of simplicity and economy.

They mounted the campaign after attending three fires involving fixed double glazing in two weeks. Two resulted in death, the third in severe burns. In the last case the fire had started in a sofa and a couple had carried it out into the hall. They were unable to get it further so it blocked their escape route and when the fire spread back into the living room, their only means of escape was

the window. Not only were they unable to break the fixed glazing, but the firemen had difficulty getting through the two panes from the outside.

So, the first and most important lesson is that you should always make sure your double glazing will open or can be lifted off quickly and easily. It is going to cost more, but the cost of a life is not something that you can put on your income tax return while the cost of double glazing can be added to your mortgage.

How effective?

Next, what will double glazing achieve? The claims are elimination of draughts, reduction of heat loss and therefore lower fuel bills, increase in comfort and living space, reduction in condensation and noise, deterrent against burglars, elimination of decorating and maintenance (with uPVC

frames only), and added value to the property.

The facts are a little less euphoric. Draught proofing costs a good deal less than double glazing and will save up to 15 per cent of the immediate heat loss. The Draught Proofing Advisory Association, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1 (637 7481) will give free information on the various types available.

Increase in comfort and living space? Weatherstripping and thick, lined curtains could do as much.

Reduction in condensation and noise? In my experience this is where double glazing does achieve its promises, although there are still points to watch. Aluminium has a higher conductivity than wood or uPVC and therefore you should make sure that you choose the newer designs which incorporate a thermal barrier, thus reducing the risk of condensation.

How much?

How much heat and money do you save? Most heat is lost through the roof, walls and floors. The heat loss through the windows is between 10 and 20 per cent and double glazing reduces this by about half. So when companies talk about reducing your heat loss by half they mean by between five and 10 per cent of the total heat loss.

The *Handyman's* report of August 1981 reckoned that you might save around £30 on an annual central heating bill. Two years later this figure will have risen, but as the average expenditure on double glazing is about £1,500 and a whole double-glazed house could cost as much as £3,000 to double-glaze, it would take some time to recover the cost in saved fuel bills.

Value added to your property? Yes, if you live near Heathrow, or

opposite a pub, or near a railway line, or on a main road. Otherwise it is highly unlikely that you would recoup the money spent if you had to sell the house soon after the installation. Given two identical houses, both with central heating and one with double glazing, I would not pay an extra £2,000 or so for the latter. Others might, but a quick survey round some offices showed that double glazing was low on the priority list of house improvements.

It is really all a question of what price you put on comfort. At one time we all thought central heating was a luxury (see Values next week if you still want to install it). Now even in seven households has double glazed windows. When we are all hermetically sealed, what's the betting that the next demand on our spare cash will be air conditioning?

SHOPFRONT



Carry on learning

Salisbury shops are one of the best sources of inexpensive bags and luggage. Among their back-to-school suggestions are these two alternatives (above) to the conventional satchel: a really roomy double-sided bag in beige and burgundy nylon canvas at £9.95 (also in navy and burgundy), and a canvas duffel bag for those who cycle to school, £6.99 in blue or red. From all branches of Salisbury, both are sturdy enough and sufficiently weather-proof to hold not only books but the rest essentials of modern junior living, the calculator and the Sony Walkman.

Frothy fantasies

If you have never seen a dream making you should take a trip to 54 Park Road, London NW1, where a new lingerie shop called *Etoile* has just opened. It is full of the most enchanting froths of silk and lace - and all at remarkably accessible prices. The designer and owner is Diana Ledger who studied at Medway College of Design in Rochester. She started to freelance three years ago but found that working for commercial companies who altered her designs to fit a budget was too frustrating and has now opened her own small shop to give her ideas full rein. She has three or four basic shapes in nightdresses, slips, camisoles, French knickers and blouses which she makes individual by the choice of carefully selected, very good quality lace. Most designs can be made in a range of colours including cream, ivory, peach, coffee, beige, pink, black and grey and she will design in stronger colours if asked. The size range is small, medium and large, but she will also make very small and very large and she can complete special orders in seven to 14 days - three weeks if the fabric has to be specially ordered from Switzerland. All the designs are available in natural fabrics, cotton, crêpe de chine, silk, satin and silk tulle. There is a glamorous rustling half petticoat with a deep rounce, pin tucked and trimmed with lace, at £26, and the hand-work is exquisitely done, even including hand-turned straps on the nightdresses and camisoles. The nightdresses illustrated here are in cream silk trimmed with cream lace in small, medium or large at £62. The gently elasticated back means that it will fit many intermediate sizes. Other designs are from £30 in cotton and from £55 in silk. Camisoles are available from £15 cotton to £25 silk, blouses £35 cotton to £48 silk. The shop is open 10am to 6pm, Monday to Saturday.

establishing a vineyard. It will deal with site preparation, selection of varieties, planting, pest-control and costs. Each course costs £30 including lunch. Contact the University of Bristol, Department of Extra-mural Studies, 32 Tyndall Park Road, Bristol (BS1 2AT).

Adult weekends

For adults who would like a back-to-school winter weekend break, the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education has published its winter brochure. Study weekends cost from £28 including full board and tuition and are often held in country houses or historical buildings. Subjects include madrigals in Warwickshire, cartoon drawing in Cambridge, karate in Aberystwyth, Czech chamber music in Devon and the more usual languages, crafts, literature and antiquities. The brochure is available from the NIAEC, 198 De Montfort Street, Leicester for 50p including p.p.

Home brew

For perhaps you would prefer to go to a day-school on winemaking? The University of Bristol is running two courses in November. The first, on November 25, is for those who already have a vineyard but have not yet made their own wine and includes instructions on equipment, acidity and sugar analyses and control, harvesting, yeasts and quality-control. It will be held at Le Lang Ashdown Research Station, near Bristol. The second is on November 26 in the Department of Chemistry, Cantocks Close, Bristol and is for those who are thinking of

establishing a vineyard. It will deal with site preparation, selection of varieties, planting, pest-control and costs. Each course costs £30 including lunch. Contact the University of Bristol, Department of Extra-mural Studies, 32 Tyndall Park Road, Bristol (BS1 2AT).

Crafty capability

Country crafts, including blacksmithing, fly dressing, thatching and basketmaking, have an ideal setting next week when the fourth British Craft Show is held in the 55 acres of Capability Brown gardens at Syon Park, Uxbridge. Lancashire blacksmith Ron Carter, who has made candelabra and fire dogs for the Queen and Prince Charles, will demonstrate forging techniques. Alan Gumbrell of Hampshire will cover a new roof with two coats of Synchemicals, a member of the Basketmakers' Association will be re-caning and rushing chairs and making wicker baskets. Other crafts represented - there are 150 - include wattle hurdle making, stained glass making, egg decorating, gliding, lace making, bookbinding and enamelling. The exhibition will be open from 10am to 6pm September 15 to 18. Admission £2 adults, £1 children and pensioners.

B.D.

Drawings by Jill Field

MATERIALS AND TYPES

The British Plastics Federation, 5 Belgrave Square, London SW1 (235 9488), set up its Plastics Windows Group nearly three years ago when plastic windows first came to the attention of British. They now have about 30 members. Details are available for an sse.

There are two main types of double glazing. Replacement windows: These are sealed units consisting of two sheets of glass spaced apart and hermetically sealed. They can be opened like single glazed windows or on the tilt-and-turn system for easy cleaning.

Secondary glazing: This involves a second pane of glass in its own frame which is fixed and can slide horizontally or vertically to allow the existing window to be opened and it must be easily removable.

There is a variety of framing materials to choose from. Softwood or hardwood frames: These are available either for DIY or professionally fitted. The advantages are that they are the cheapest form of double glazing and that any size or style is possible. The disadvantages are that wood rots if it is not treated

with preservative and needs regular decoration.

Aluminium frames: These are the most popular type of double glazing with about 90 per cent of the market, although Zenith who supply both aluminium and uPVC estimate that by 1986 uPVC will have 60 per cent. The disadvantages are the likelihood of corrosion and condensation. Do not buy solid aluminium extruded frames which are the worst insulators. Demand extrusions with a thermal break. If you still have problems it is likely to be due to bad fitting. Most aluminium frames need a wood sub-frame which may eventually rot. You cannot fit aluminium directly into brickwork. The advantages are that aluminium is stronger for its weight than uPVC so a slimmer frame will do the same job and will look more like the original timber frame.

uPVC (unplasticized polyvinyl chloride): This is an up-and-coming contender. The disadvantages are that some forms are instantly recognizable as plastic because of the relatively bulky appearance, although the new generation "slimline" frames are becoming much neater; they are expensive and only replacement windows are available, not secondary glazing. The advantages are that they require absolutely no maintenance and they can be fitted into brickwork without a sub-frame.

To find out just how much pressure is put on prospective customers I asked three major companies to quote for double glazing in my third-floor flat.

Everest said they would ring back and didn't. Alpine said they would ring back and didn't. Critical made an immediate appointment. I asked for advice on whether to choose secondary glazing or replacement windows. Neither Critical nor Alpine tried to persuade me in favour of the much more expensive replacement windows.

The Critical representative knocked at the timber door in a desultory sort of way and said they would have to be replaced in five years or so anyway. He didn't measure anything, although he was prepared to come back and do so, and gave a rough quote of £60 per window for lift-off panes, £160 for sliding sashes and £300 for replacements. Alpine's Mr M. C. Coleman was extremely efficient. He measured everything, showed me samples of the products, blinded me with scientific detail and was generally very impressive. For me his most convincing argument was that the Design Centre and the British Antarctic Survey Base had both had Alpine fitted.

CASE HISTORIES

His price, in view of the fact that Alpine are the second largest double-glazing company in the country, compared well with Critical - £150 per window for sliding aluminium frames plus £15 for sound insulation (I overlook a public house), minus discount for quantity (various discounts for almost any believable reason are part of the double-glazing sales technique). The total first quotation was £840.23 for six windows.

I happen to be rather good at saying no to salesmen. If you are not, you should beware of any company trying to sell by telephone. Amelia Falk of Beckenham was pestered more than 10 times by the same company whose canvasser seemed unable to accept that she owned her flat and kept asking to speak to her husband - a sexist attitude which enraged her.

"I tried every way I could think of, including being really rude, to tell them that I wasn't interested in double glazing, but they still keep ringing, although I have

asked them not to", she said. "It is a gross invasion of privacy."

The other sales ploy to avoid is a new technique known as "sugging", selling under the guise of market research. A trainee salesman in Manchester left his job after one week with a double glazing company because he did not like the methods he was taught to use. "I was told to pretend to be a researcher making a public opinion survey. Only when I was in the house and had completed a questionnaire with the aid of the householder was I to reveal that my main reason for being there was to sell them a package of wall insulation and double glazing."

He asked not to be named because "I got the impression that some employees might not be above a little physical violence if their source of income was threatened by someone unable to keep a discreet silence."

If you are approached by a market researcher, you can ask to see their official interview card - approved by the Market Research Society - and don't forget, if you should be trapped into agreeing to buy something you don't want, there is a statutory cooling-off period of five days during which you can cancel the whole order.

Anyone for lawn care?

If you have been thinking about putting down a new lawn or renovating an existing one, now is the time to get down to it. After the long, dry summer, the ground will be very hard unless some attempt has been made to aerate it. At this stage there is no need to apply water but it is time to start soil preparation.

Soil condition

The grass plant does not require a deep rich soil to grow; it needs a minimum of 6in of soil but ideally a depth of 12in of soil over a well drained subsoil. The topsoil should be well worked and if it is very short of organic matter it would be wise to incorporate some. Peat is the best for this, but anything would be better than nothing so long as it is well rotted. Do not apply manure or organic matter which has to rot as this could lead to subsidence.

Cultivation

Cultivate to a depth of not less than 6in - the depth will depend on the quality of soil. Try not to mix the topsoil with the subsoil. Bearing this in mind cultivate as deep as you can up to one spit deep. If drainage is bad or in any way suspect, remedy this before carrying out soil cultivations. Virgin soil may need to be dug two spits deep, but it is rarely necessary to go this deep. So long as the drainage is good there is no reason why a cultivator should

Levelling

Once the spadework has been done levelling comes next. It is wise to look at the lie of the land and to level to this; if the ground falls away in an even slope then lay the lawn to this level. To attempt to level sloping ground means terracing of some kind; this is difficult and can be expensive.

Firm base

Consolidation of the ground is the next step as it is no use trying to grow grass on soft loose ground. The best way to consolidate small areas is to tread them. This is done by placing the feet together and walking in small steps sideways, ensuring the weight comes down on the balls of the feet first. Larger areas are more difficult and this is where the roller comes in, although I find consolidation with a roller only affects the top inch and does not firm lower in the soil. A thorough watering will help to fill the air spaces and this will go a long way towards ensuring the soil is not loose at sowing time.

Weed control

If the preparatory work can be done early enough it is good policy to follow the land, allowing deep-rooted weeds to be seen and eradicated. This is more important if you are sowing than if you are tilling. Remove weeds as they are seen no matter where you are in the programme of work.

Seed and turf

Seeding is the best way of producing a lawn, as you have control over the kind of grasses

and can prepare the lawn for the way it is to be used. Turfing is quicker and so long as it is done properly a usable lawn can be made in three to four months. It will look like a lawn before there it pays to give the grass a chance to root into the soil before putting it to work. The preparatory work is the same for both methods, but less effort is needed to sow than to turf and the waiting time is shorter.

Unless you are well skilled in the art of broadcast sowing it is wise to divide the seed and the land into sections. The seed should then be divided again so there are two packets per section, allowing a total of 1½oz per sq yd. Sowing should be from two directions, first sow east to west, then using the other packet of seed sow north to south. This ensures a more even distribution and therefore a better grass sward once germination has taken place. Lightly rake the area to remove footprints and break up any hard pan which may have followed sowing. This operation also covers very lightly some of the seed so that birds, who follow sowing, do not remove too much. If it remains dry after sowing, water to get a good percentage germination. Grass plants at this stage are very small and if they dry out they will die. So make sure young plants are kept well supplied with moisture.

Good grass seed mixtures, clearly indicating the kind of use they are for, are available in this country. Seed for good-quality lawns where wear is kept to a minimum, mixtures for hard-wearing areas, for shady areas and so on. Ask for advice when buying because the wrong type of mixture would not give the results you are looking for. Suttons, Dobies, Hursts and Fothergill seeds are all worth looking at.

Ashley Stephenson

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Going up: *Fatschodora* Linn., *Jasminum polyanthum* and the *Passiflora* John Goss



Going up: *Fatschodora* Linn., *Jasminum polyanthum* and the *Passiflora* John Goss

Head for heights

I use the term *gracilis* to indicate a plant which is not fully hardy and needs protection either under glass or in the home. Those which add height are of great value as they add a new dimension, and some are easier to grow in a greenhouse.

Two well known plants which are good in home or greenhouse are *Cissampelos* and *Rhoicissus*. *Cissampelos* is a green-leaved but vigorous climber which will accept a position in shade fairly easily. *Rhoicissus* *rhomboides* Ellen Danica is a beautiful cut-leaved form, better than the type. *Fatschodora* is the result of a cross between *Ivy* and *Fatsia*; it does not climb in the same way, but will cover a lot of space. The *Hedera*, or *Ivy*, family are great climbers, and although hardy they do well with the extra protection they get under glass. Look out for *Goldheart*, *Glacier*, *canariensis*, *colchica* and *Harold*, green foliage with white and yellow variegations. *Passion* flowers, although hardy in some areas, perform well under glass; remember to grow them with a restricted root run by keeping

them in a small pot. *Philodendrons* are lovely foliage plants, which climb well with a framework to cling to. A number of good varieties are available such as *Emerald Queen*, *Red Emerald* and the sweetest, *vine scandens*.

Another good plant I have always enjoyed is *Scindapsus* or *Philodendron*, which climbs well and has well marked yellow foliage. *Jasminum polyanthum* adds scent to the house and produces white flowers over a greater part of the summer. *Epiphyllum splendens* is a Brazilian plant with a rich pink trumpet-shaped flower which comes on through the summer and well into September. It is a twining plant which needs a frame. *Hoya carnosa* and *Hoya bella* grow well in house conditions. *Lagerflora* comes from the south of Africa and has been able to get it to thrive in the south. Under house conditions it needs care and attention but in cold greenhouses it is a treat. Plants must be looked for as some of them are not in common usage; prices vary according to size. Young plants are about £4 each; specimens can cost from £10 upwards.

Tree of Heaven

The mild winter and the moist spring, followed by the prolonged spell of very warm weather has induced a number of plants to perform better this year. The *Tree of Heaven*, *Ailanthus altissima*, is one and it is in full flower at the moment.

Though this tree is quite big when mature (there are specimens over 70ft tall), it can be grown in a medium-sized garden as a plant of great interest. Its pinnate leaves, attractive enough in themselves, can be made even more so, if young specimens are planted in good rich soil and cut back. Planted into 10in or 12in pots, young whips can then be cut back to about 6in above the pot to make fast vigorous growth. Following this, individual leaves can reach up to 4ft long. Young specimens planted out into the garden and so treated will do the same. Container-grown plants are available and these allow planting to take place at almost any time of the year. Despite this, I would try to carry out any planting between November and March. Trees are about £14 each.

The right move

Deciduous shrubs are best moved during the dormant season. But this is not the best time to move evergreens, which continue to grow slowly during the winter. They should be moved at a time when the roots are still growing strongly and able to take over the soil, in mid-to late autumn. It is possible to do it in the spring, but the results are not so good. Preparation can make the difference between success and failure. Remember that many evergreens are lime-haters when you choose the soil. Positions for planting should be dug two spits deep, and organic matter added to the bottom spit. Use well-rotted farmyard manure or any good quality compost, which should also be well rotted. Add the organic matter to the bottom spit

Bright borders

Plants with coloured foliage are always good value in any garden, particularly when the foliage is strap-shaped. *Phormiums* are not fully hardy and therefore need to be carefully sited; they may need protection during severe winters. Ideally plant in April and May when there is some sign that growth has started, but it is possible to get good results from an August or September planting. Plant in a site protected from the north and east where they get the benefit of the warmth available, making sure the ground is well drained and the soil is deep and fairly good. *Phormiums* are not happy in poor soils. They have no preference as to soil acidity; avoid the extremes and they will show no symptoms of ill health.

Phormium tenax, the New Zealand flax, is the one seen most often, and is a big plant carrying leaves up to 5ft long, although they are usually much smaller at 6ft. Two forms are available, *P. tenax* with a bronzy leaf and *P. variegatum* which has leaves striped with creamy yellow. The new varieties from New Zealand have increased the value of the flax and have the same needs and likes as the tenax forms. They are smaller growing and fit into the garden much better in tube

and mix this with the soil - never apply manure or organic matter to the soil in layers. Roots, as they penetrate the soil, have been known to curl away from neat manure, but mixing allows the roots a free run into the soil. The top spit only requires treated bonemeal. It is always well worth spraying evergreens with a product called *Seal* from Synchemicals, a transplanting spray which cuts down transpiration loss. Watering is crucial once the tree or shrub has been planted, so make sure it never dries out. Overhead sprays are beneficial, and should be applied in the early morning or evening. Plant the shrub with a small depression at the base, so that water can seep down slowly to the roots. Newly-planted evergreens should be protected from winds.

or containers. *P. Cookianum* Emerald Green is dwarf in habit and its bright green leaves reach 12in or more, good where there is limited space. *P. T. Cookii*, reaches about 3ft high; the foliage is a good copper as with *P. tenax* but much less vigorous. *P. T. Cookii* is one I like very much; its leaves are wider, greyish purple in the centre with banded creamy pink margins. It is tall at 5ft or more.

Good plants are available at between £22 and £27.5 each from Blooms of Bressingham.

Gordon and Phormium



During the...

...the definition...

...the pocket...

REVIEW Paperbacks of the month

From ancient Roman temples to modern urban decay, contrasting views of London reveal a tale of two cities

Picturing the past frame by frame

This book is superb cinema. It starts by whisking us up over London, to dwell at length on what, from this height, appears an unprepossessing landscape, redeemed by the great river cranking lazily and extravagantly out to sea.

It plunges us down into the excavation of the Temple of Mithras. It rushes us along past the royal menagerie at the Tower of London to the murder of Wat Tyler, the building of Westminster Hall, and the gaily coloured tournament to mark the birth of a son to Henry VIII.

It allows real Londoners to pick their way through the streets of the Elizabethan city on the earliest map, on which every check-by-jowl house was illustrated. It closes us in the corrupt and squalid, spooky atmosphere of the Court of Wards and Liveries. One last look at Old St Paul's, then plague! fire! rebuilding! But who is this we're in the stocks? It is Titus Oates, looking

London: 2,000 years of a city and its people by Felix Barker and Peter Jackson (Macmillan/Papermac, £9.95)

as silly as his name. Squares spring up, London Bridge falls down, and in Russell Street Boswell meets Dr Johnson, we presume.

It is a sumptuous piece of modern book production, marshall over 1,000 plates elegantly and generously. Image succeeds image in an exhilarating cavalcade. It may be me, but I do not feel it contains much of the London I know. That is partly because the illustrations are nearly all taken from contemporary sources - manuscripts, oil paintings, prints. They all look so new. Take the Cato Street conspiracy: the print shows the subtle conspirators in a tea-shop bath, as clean as a toothbrush. Bath, actually, early nineteenth-century aquatints of the docks

show them as a vision of order and seaminess. It is only with the twentieth century that the grim and gritty that is an inescapable part of urban life starts coming through. But the twentieth century comes at the end of a long and eventful show: credits roll, the lights go up, because really, children, you have seen quite enough already. Well, I can see the point.

One thing I love about the book is that, despite the thoroughly modern production techniques, the organization is almost Victorian. History is told through pictures, and the pictures are chosen for anecdote. It is not strictly relevant to the development of the metropolis that Earl Ferrers, who shot his steward, was the last nobleman to suffer a felon's death, but I am glad to know, and I must say there is a certain fascination in seeing him in his coffin, propped up vertically against a table for a better view.

The Berners Street hoax, in which some wit had quantities of unwanted goods delivered to an unsuspecting householder, does not seem a real wow, but how lovely Mrs Sage - "the First Female Aerial Traveller" - must have looked as she lifted off with Signor Lunardi on her balloon ascendant, at least if we may believe the engraving.

Cholera was nasty, but fire fighting, what with the clattering of horses and the red-coated attendants of the Phoenix Fire Office cutting a dash on the tender, appears to have been rather fun, as long as it was not your house in danger.

The text is amusing, informative and served in easily digested chunks. The brilliantly chosen illustrations have made me look at my native city with new eyes.

Clive Aslet

The author is senior architectural writer for Country Life.



Fortunes of war: Medieval painting of London, depicting (from right to left) the imprisonment, ransom and release of Charles, Duke of Orleans, captured on the field of Agincourt

Beginner's pasta and warthogs à la carte

The Second Classic Italian Cookbook by Marcella Hazan (Papermac, £5.95)

A Concise Encyclopedia of Gastronomy by André L. Simon (Penguin, £5.95)

The All-American Cookbook by Martha Lomask (Sphere, £3.95)

It is a great mistake, though an understandable one, to be intimidated by Marcella Hazan. She sometimes makes me feel that my tastes are quite unequal to the testing standards she sets. Take this on pasta from *The Second Classic Italian Cookbook*.

"Pasta rolled out by hand with a wooden rolling pin is stretched. Pasta squeezed through the rollers of a machine is compressed - a slick, compact, uniform, almost waxy sheet of dough. Stretched pasta is porous and gossamer. It has the fine-grained, irregular texture of skin. In the mouth, hand-made pasta has a flavour and liveliness of texture that are inimitable. It is not a matter of taste but of perception."

So one reads her the better to see, the better to understand. On the techniques of Italian cooking she is a master of precise explanation. Nothing the beginner could wish to know is missed. And yet - and here is the mark of a classic if you like - there is inspiration at every turn. Glorious recipes tumble prodigiously from the pages. The sections on bread, pizza and pasta and the recipes for fish are irresistible. I have repeated every dish I have made from the book since it was published in hardback last year.

The foreword of André Simon's *A Concise Encyclopedia of Gastronomy* talks of Gastronomy with a capital G and is in many ways as dated as that old-fashioned style of writing. The book was originally published in nine sections, most of which appeared during the Second World War, and it was last revised in 1952. If you require to know that "opinions vary considerably" regarding the palatability of the wart hog, how to make a neat's tongue pie in the fashion of 1672, or to settle an argument over the composition of a classic sauce, this is your book. Its 750-odd pages of recipes are attributed in a 283-entry bibliography.

The All-American Cookbook is just that. It has recipes for interesting-sounding specialties such as Pennsylvania Dutch rufel soup, rockbottom chili, and succotash, as well as all the dips, cheesecakes and Texican curiosities they eat over there. Martha Lomask has written the book for British readers, and her descriptions of ingredients, measures and equipment are additionally useful for anyone interested in developing American recipes from other sources.

Nigel Andrew

Shona Crawford Poole

Radical conscience on a Hackney ride

At first the model for this foray into the borough of Hackney seems to be Henry Mayhew or Charles Booth, those moralizing Victorian social investigators who shocked their contemporaries by revealing the extent of poverty and degradation on the very doorsteps of moderately prosperous London.

But after a while it becomes clear to the reader that Mr Harrison - the successful author of surveys of the "Third World" - is more taken by Oscar Lewis in his anthropological/romantic excursions to Mexico. Indeed, he is telling us that Hackney is our

Inside the inner city by Paul Harrison (Pelican, £3.95)

Third World - a nation living in basic underdeveloped conditions, yet so close to the affluent, developed world that it is actually visible from the heights of Parliament Hill where literary folk, and presumably their readers, live.

Mr Harrison's object is the same as that of the Victorians: to stir his readers into indignation and action. He nearly succeeds. He writes persuasively, his

subjects, the poor people of Hackney, acquire a compelling articulacy about their plight. His detailed eye penetrates the interior of council flats, rag-trade factories, social security offices; we meet a succession of people who have harrowing tales of poverty to relate and, most movingly, their impoverished children, too.

But each chapter has its political pay-off. Inner-city problems, it is implied, are compounded or caused by monetarism and capitalism; Thatcher demonology abounds. Mr Harrison displays an irresponsible liking for riot as an

engine of social and political change.

Yet by the book's end his radical purposes have been undermined by the very accuracy of his reporting. His family histories, his tales from the "lower reaches" disclose a much more complex pattern of causes of poverty than his political preaching allows. People are poor and living in Hackney through bad luck, personality failings and mistaken choice as well as through the undoubted injustices of "the system".

David Walker

Subtle definition and extraordinary elegance

From the house that produced the Modern Masters series, in paper covers that looked like portions of wallpaper (and some of the subjects were the intellectual version of that homely decoration) there now comes Pocket Readers, a selection of extracts from various notable, or at least widely noticed, contemporary authors. You would need an exceptionally large pocket, however, to carry one of these volumes, at a size of 7½ by 5½, if not to pay for one.

Roland Barthes, the French writer who was killed in a street accident in 1980, lends himself readily to such abbreviation since he is essentially an essayist. Although he was the first popularizer of semiology, or the science of signs, he was a systematic thinker who never constructed a system. The essays in this anthology, however, testify to the range of his concerns: the Vietnam war, the Eiffel Tower and Dutch painting, Raudelaire and striptease, and it would not have been beyond his considerable powers of analysis to

Barthes: Selected writings introduced by Susan Sontag (Fontana, £4.95)

compare each to the other and discover certain shared functions.

Barthes has a tendency to employ elegant abstractions, in which objects and events are afforded meaning only through the network of relations which they form with each other, although the rigour of his investigation is mitigated by a benign and sometimes anecdotal style. He seems in that sense a characteristically French writer, for whom the creation of order and intelligibility is the essential part of his design, and for whom appearance is the key to meaning. If lucidity is an element of rhetoric, then Barthes is a rhetorician.

But that does not preclude the most refined kind of observation; on the contrary, the peculiar over-brightness of our civilization can only properly be measured by someone who understands the

principle of *clarté*, and who can interpret a neon advertisement with the same attentiveness as he explains a passage from Fourier. And when, in an essay on wrestling, he suggests that the modernist is an event wants "an image of passion, not passion itself", he is getting close to the spirit of his own investigations.



Roland Barthes: Lucia

An extract from his brief journal is also published here, and from it one receives the impression of a solitary, bookish and speculative man, entranced by the idea of language, he slowly resolves each perception like a glass-blower, so that he can lead to it the maximum subtlety of definition and redefinition.

But despite the extraordinary elegance and lucidity of his prose - one of his books is entitled *The Pleasure of the Text*, and his writing is perhaps the most sheerly pleasurable of contemporary essays - there is a quality of effectiveness or engagement which he deliberately refrains from employing.

It is as if when reading Barthes we are seeing the world through a window of the most brilliant but solid glass: if it were snowing, we would have no notion of the sound or the texture or the sheer cold of the snow, and would receive only the image of it silently falling.

Peter Ackroyd

An overwhelming sense of sadness

Here are two new paperback imprints: Everyman Fiction from Dent, and Flamingo from Fontana Paperbacks. They are aimed squarely at some 1980s idea of the general reader, and the keyword is quality. Indeed the Flamingos brazenly describe themselves as "altogether better books". Both lists will include a mixture of newish titles and established works from the backlist.

In appearance the Dent books are notably stunner and more elegant - the thickest so far is *Unholy Love* by Joyce Carol Oates - while the Flamingos are strangely competent, and incline to repetition, with two André Brink, two Jonathan Raban and no less than three Anthony Powell.

Everyman Fiction intend to publish about a dozen titles a year. The best of the first half-dozen is Rachel Ingalls's *Mrs Caliban and Others*, a rather consisting of last year's novella and two longish short stories from a 1974 volume (all previously Faber).

Mrs Caliban is a story of the utmost improbability, a love

Mrs Caliban and Others by Rachel Ingalls (Everyman Fiction, £2.95)

The Turning Point by Fritjof Capra (Flamingo, £3.50)

affair between a bored and unhappy American housewife and a 6 ft 7 in frog-like sea creature, but Rachel Ingalls tells it with such



Rachel Ingalls: Skiffal

extraordinary skill that the reader is instantly ensnared. There is a good deal of humour, but the lingering flavour is of an immense and desolating sadness. The other two stories show the writer equally at home in the masculine psyche. A formidable talent and an ornament to the new list.

The Turning Point by Fritjof Capra (author of *The Tao of Physics*, also reissued in Flamingo) is a wide-ranging book, attempting to construct out of post-Einsteinian physics nothing less than a new world-view and an alternative future for the planet. There is plenty to object to as Capra's generalizations sweep across the history of human culture, and everything judged acceptable in the 1960s is swept into the service of the rising culture. But when he gets down to the meat of his argument, he is illuminating and persuasive.

This is certainly not the best, but it might well be one of the most important books of our time.

Nigel Andrew

Shona Crawford Poole

Eve and the fruits of knowledge

If Howard Brenton's new play, *The Genius*, seems like an anti-nuclear fantasy it is salutary to know that the author spent two years researching the field of nuclear physics before writing it.

The play, directed by Danny Boyle, opens at the Royal Court on Monday. It concerns a Nobel prize-winning mathematician who retreats from the United States to an English university in an attempt to suppress his potentially destructive knowledge.

He has discovered the means of uniting the forces of nature and realizes that whoever has this formula can control the world. His awareness that the knowledge will not be put to good use causes his self-imposed exile. But when he discovers that an 18-year-old student at the university has unwittingly stumbled on part of the equation, he sees that his move was only a delaying tactic.

"The first thing to remember is that this is all based on scientific fact," says Trevor Eve, who plays

the scientist, Leo Lehrer. "Scientists are very close to uniting the forces of nature, so close in fact that Howard hopes the play will come out before they actually do."

"Such knowledge would give whoever has it total control over the environment and, of course, if you understand how everything is constructed and how matter is pieced together, you also know how the reverse applies."

At the beginning of rehearsals the actors were given a lecture by a mathematician on the breakdown of the atom and the division of the forces of nature into gravity, electrical force, strong nuclear force and weak nuclear force. Eve was anxious to reassure audiences that this sort of homework would not be necessary for them.

"As a third time taker of maths O-level, I understood the play in the first reading. It is a play about a moral dilemma - what do you do when you have this kind of knowledge? The scientist thinks that by cutting off his brain and

refusing to work any more he can avoid the question, but then, in the most dramatic way possible, he confronts a young woman student who has without knowing it written out the pure mathematics of uniting nature. The play is not so much about nuclear war, as about corruption and the difficulty of hanging on to your ideals in life. It is also a love story of sorts."

The Genius has obviously had a strong effect on its actors. Eve says: "It has made me feel that we have all got a responsibility for our science and to say that scientists are dealing with it is not good enough, because no one is dealing with it in the sense of accepting responsibility. It is certainly a play that made me think, and it should make the audience sit bolt upright."

Clare Colvin

The Genius opens at the Royal Court (730 1745) on Monday at 7pm.



Nuclear gravity: Howard Brenton (left), whose new play *The Genius* stars Trevor Eve (right)

Critics' choice

ARDEN OF FAVERSHAM The Pit (828 8795)

Wed at 7.30pm; Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm; in repertory with *Molière* by Mikhail Bulgakov (today at 2pm and 7.30pm; Mon and Tues at 7.30pm) and *Tartuffe* by Molière (Fri at 7.30pm)

Tony Hand's grouping and perceptive production of the anonymous Elizabethan murder drama reveals it as a fascinating, enigmatic classic. Jenny Agutter and Robert O'Mahoney play the adulterous couple whose attempts to kill her stolid husband (Christopher Benjamin) combine pathos with agreeably black humour.

CHARLEY'S AUNT Aldwych (836 6404)

Until Sept 24, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm,

Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm

Griff Rhys Jones makes one of the best "aunts" ever in a joyous staging (originally at the King's Head); but the production's speed and sparkle make it an intoxicating evening.

HAPPY FAMILY Duke of York's (836 5122)

Mon-Thurs at 8pm, Fri and Sat at 5.45pm and 8.30pm

Giles Cooper's clever, disturbing 1960s comedy about three grown-up siblings imprisoned in childhood ritual is still theatrically gripping and full of psychological and political nuance. Excellent direction by Maria Aitken of an impressive cast.

MR CINDERS Fortune (836 2238)

Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.45pm; matinee Thurs at 5pm

Packard with enchanting songs and boasting a witty performance by

Dennis Lawson of acrobatic musical recasts *Cinderella* in the anyone-for-anything age. Modest staging (originally at the King's Head); but the production's speed and sparkle make it an intoxicating evening.

NOISES OFF Savoy (836 8888)

Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 3pm

The funniest farce for years. Michael Fryn's brilliantly contrived complex of on-stage disasters and backstage dramas is still keeping houses full and audiences helpless with laughter after its first cast change. Phyllida Law, Benjamin Whitrow and the rest of Michael Elkstone's crack company give it the best of both worlds - the commercial hit and the connoisseur's classic.

A PATRIOT FOR ME Haymarket (830 9632)

Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Sat at 2.30pm

John Osborne's epic about an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army, fighting his way through society to a top espionage job only to be discredited as a homosexual, comes up full of drama, colour and subtlety in Ronald Eyre's revival transferred from Chichester. Supporting Alan Bates in the central role, Harry Andrews as a veteran general and Michael Gough as a hero hosting Mozartian soirées in drag stand firmly as opposite poles in the Vienna that Lehrer should have told us more about.

THE RIVALS Offit (828 2252)

Today at 2pm and 7.15pm. Mon at 7.15pm, Tues at 2pm and 7.15pm. In repertory with *Tales from Hollywood* by Christopher Hampton (Wed and Thurs at

7.15pm) and *Gyps and Dolls* (Fri at 7.15pm)

Peter Wood's sparkling revival of Sheridan fulfils the promise of its cast list: Geraldine McEwan as a young but hilariously affected Mrs Malaprop, Sir Michael Hordern gaily and frantically Patrick Ryecart as a witty hero and Tim Curry.

WOZZY ALBERTI Criterion (930 3216)

Mon-Fri at 8.30pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.30pm

Black South Africa's cry from the heart. Virtuosos in multiple part-doubling and storytelling on a bare stage, Percy Mtwa and Mbongeni Ngema enact the often funny, finally heartbreaking consequences of Christ's choice of Bothe's Johannesburg for his second coming adoption as white propaganda figure, arrest as a Communist agitator, and resurrection on the third day with Albert Lutuli and Steve Biko.

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU Lyttelton (928 2252)

Thurs and Fri at 7.45pm. In repertory with *Inner Voices* by Eduardo de Filippo (Today at 3pm and 7.45pm; Mon and Tues at 7.45pm; Wed at 8pm and 7.45pm).

Once again the National strikes gold in America, this time with Kaufman and Hart's endearing 1936 comedy about a family of happy eccentrics. Jimmy Jewell as the genial, drop-out grandpa, Geraldine McEwan as dotty, au courant mother, Glynis Brown as alcoholic actress and Margaret Courtenay as a Russian grandee turned wealthy combine in a gloriously funny, subversive hymn to independence.

Theatre: Irving Wardle and Anthony Masters; Galleries: John Russell Taylor

Out of Town

BATH: Theatre Royal, Sewcose (0225 85074). *Blondel* by Tim Rice and Stephen Oliver. Until Sept 25, Mon-Thurs at 7.15pm, Fri and Sat at 8.15pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm and Sat at 4pm then transfer to Manchester.

LYRIC: Tim Rice's first musical since *Evita*, with composer Stephen Oliver. The tale of a twentieth-century minstrel who crosses Europe in search of the missing king, Richard the Lionheart. Paul Nicholas and Sharon Lee Hill lead.

BROMLEY: Churchill Theatre, High Street (450 6677/6838). *Murder* Dear Watson by John Kane. Until Oct 1, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm; matinee Sept 15 and 28 at 2.30pm, Sept 17 and Oct 1 at 4.30pm

EDINBURGH: Royal Lyceum (031-229 9657). Time Present by Tom Gallacher. Until Sept 17, today at 7.30pm and 11pm, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri at 8pm, Sept 17 at 4pm and 8pm

SHOW, changing slightly each night, which commemorates the building's 100 years of continuous live theatre and incorporates guest appearances by some of the famous names from the past.

HULL: Spring Street Theatre (0482 23638). *Gregory's Girl* by Bill Forsyth. Sept 12-16 at 7.45pm

LEEDS: Playhouse (0532 442141). On the Razzle by Tom Stoppard. Until Oct 1, Mon and Tues at 8pm, Wed-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Oct 1 at 2pm

LIVERPOOL: Playhouse (051 709 1555). *The Blue Angel* by Josef von Sternberg, adapted by Andrew Sinclair. Until Oct 1, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 4pm and 8pm

NOTTINGHAM: Theatre Royal (0502 472328/8). *Amadeus* by Peter Shaffer. Sept 12-17, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 4.30pm and 8pm; matinee Wed at 2pm

Phenomenally successful play of Mozart and a jealous, possibly murderous, contemporary rival, in its first regional tour. Kath Mitchell plays Salieri; directed by Paul Giovanni.

PREVIEW Galleries

ARTISTS OF THE TUDOR COURT Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (589 5371). Until Nov 6, Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-5.15pm, Sun 2.30pm-5.15pm

It is many years since a major exhibition of classic English portrait miniatures took place in London, and meanwhile there have been many changes of critical emphasis and a lot of new scholarship; also, the history and iconography of the Tudor portrait are one of V & A director Sir Roy Strong's specialties. So the present show is both timely and a labour of love.

The famous figures such as Hilliard and Oliver, are present in force, but the show has its discoveries as well, such as a female miniaturist, Levina Teerlinc, who would seem to have taught Hilliard. Also at the V & A until Oct 30: the exhibition of Oliver Messiaen's interior and fabric designs drawn from materials loaned by his nephew Lord Snowdon.

THE JAPANESE PRINT SINCE 1900 British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (636 1555). Until Sept 11, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm

A show which graphically demonstrates the dilemma of twentieth-century Japanese artists caught between East and West. Some try to continue in the old woodblock tradition, as though the outside world did not exist; others try to reject the Japanese past in toto. As so often in such situations,

the most interesting work is produced by those in the middle, finding fruitful interaction between the disparate traditions. There is some good recent work, but a general tendency to ape Western artists reduces its effectiveness.

PAUL KLEE Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford (0865 722733). Until Sept 18, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Admission £1; pensioners, students 50p

Selection of 60 paintings, watercolours and prints from the collection of his son, Felix. They show the range of Klee's work from an autumn landscape painted at the age of 23 to two of his last pictures. Showing with three other exhibitions, all free, devoted to Julio Gonzalez, Jean Miro and contemporary British art.

RUGS AND THROWS British Crafts Centre, 43 Earlham Street, London WC2 (836 6933). Until Oct 8, Tues-Fri, 10am-5.30pm (until 7pm on Thurs). Sat 11am-5pm

Exhibition by weavers to demonstrate that a floor-covering can be made any shape the client wishes, of any colour and using high-quality yarn. Examples range from deep pile in special super-soft white wool and tapestry technique using wool, horse hair and linen in primary colours to double-weave lightweight throw rugs and knitted cotton fabric and wool yarns. Some rugs for sale, commissions for others welcome.

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Night Moves/ The Invitation/ St Anthony Variations

16, 17, 18 Sept

La Fille mal gardée

20, 21, 22 Sept

The Winter Play/ Chorus' Checkmate

23, 24 Sept

The Taming of the Shrew

*World Premiere

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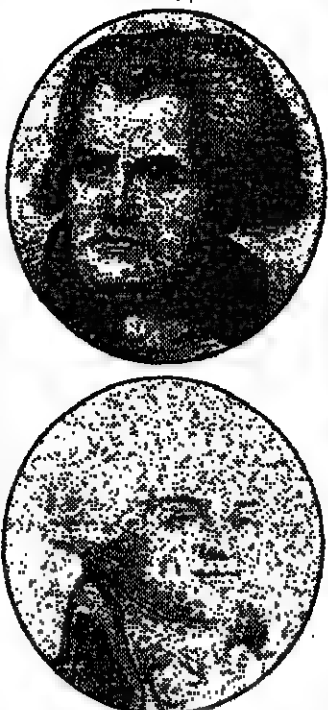
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Sadler's Wells Theatre

13-24 September 1983



Even if one dismisses the Waleśa-Jaruzelski equations as far-fetched, general Polish parallels prove impossible to ignore: *Danton* shows us another revolution and country pushed to the brink; here too are bread queues, show trials, the suppression of free speech. Wajda's source material, however, is definitely pre-Solidarity, for Stanisława Przychyńska's play *The Danton Affair* was written in the 1930s. After mounting several

Geoff Brown
Danton opens in London on Thurs-
day at the Chelsea Cinema, King's
Road, formerly known as the
Odeon, and now refurbished and
redecorated as a new showcase
cinema for the enlightened
distributors Artificial Eye.

full length, it is still marked by narrative perplexities. But the atmosphere is more grandiose than ever; Cimino re-creates nineteenth-century Wyoming with a romantic excess scarcely seen since the heyday of David O. Selznick. Kris Kristofferson and Isabelle Huppert make eloquent mountains from the script's molehills; David

Oshima's cool, penetrating version of Sir Laurens van der Post's novel *The Seed and the Sower*, with David Bowie and Tom Conti as POWs in Java. Bowie's bizarre presence and Oshima's quizzical response to British and Japanese culture combine to create a weird cinematic limbo, where the real

RETURN OF THE JEDI (U)
Classic Chelsea (352 5096)
Leicester Square Theatre
(930 5252)
Odeon Kensington (602 6644)
The latest, ultra-sophisticated
instalment of George Lucas's *Star
Wars* saga, this third adventure
describes the rebel commander's

A comedy only on the surface. Deep down, Martin Scorsese's striking film offers a bleak, low-key examination of desperate people trapped in fantasies. Jerry Lewis gives a remarkable, sour performance as a TV star kidnapped by an ambitious fan; Robert de Niro and newcomer Sandra Bernhard are hardly less impressive.

...directed by Francis Coppola with an outrageous, exhilarating romantic bloom. Orange skies glow, cameras adopt cock-eyed angles, Robert Frost is lovingly quoted, and Carmine Coppola's score surrounds the action with a radiant musical halo. The streamlined visuals share the technology of *One from the Heart*; the emotional content, however, is unique.

The Public Enemy (1931): Vibrant performance by James Cagney in the archetypal gangster movie of .

York kids in the South Bronx. A stronger narrative would help, but the generous samples of rapping, scratching, breaking and double-dutching are infectious. Music by Chris Stein.

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

NOW BOOKING
The Cramer Dance Company from Sweden opens at the Bloomsbury Theatre (387 9629) on Sept 19 for two weeks. London Contemporary Dance Theatre starts its autumn tour at Leicester on Sept 20. Northern Ballet Theatre at Manchester on Sept 21 and Scottish Ballet at Glasgow on Sept 27 - all have new productions. The ballet season at Covent Garden starts on Oct 6 but before that Makmurva and Dorell dance a cakewalk by Ashton in the Royal Opera's (Sept 19-24).

The Smiths' "Hand In Glove" has been one of the year's biggest independent hits and the entire

Jazz: Max Bell; **Opera:** Hillary Finch; **Photography:** Michael Young

T	D			K	H	A	L				
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C	O		A	B	G	I					
E	I	Z	C	H	E						

[illegible]

WORD (No 146)
 A cash dictionary will be given for the
 Thursday, September 15, 1983.
 The Times Concise Crossword
 on WC99 9YT. The winners and
 runners-up will be announced on
 September 17, 1983.

SOLUTION TO No 140 (Last Saturday's prize concise)
CROSS: 1 Fudge 4 Malaise 8 Revue 9 Trekled 10 Irritant 11 Tier
 12 Chaos 15 Serge 19 Urge 20 Laminated 23 Pleural 24 Draft 25 Epergne
 26 Risky
OWN: 1 Forbid 2 Diver 3 Ejection 4 Matins 5 Leer 6 Inkling 7 Endure
 8 Bewilder 14 Hygiene 16 Supple 17 Bailie 18 Gentry 21 Amass 22 Craze

name _____
address _____

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

THAMESDAY: Aerobics, water skiing, music from Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen, Osibisa and Romen Holiday and a spectacular fireworks display are among events being staged on and along the river in a day of festivities organized by the Greater London Council. Above the river there will be aerial displays, with treetop parachuting. Between Westminster and Waterloo bridges. Noon to 10.30pm. Most events are free.

BRITISH NATIONAL GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS: Hayley Price, aged 17, from Wolverhampton, is looking for her first British title but will face strong opposition from her 14-year-old teammate Sally Larner, one of the most promising young gymnasts in the country, not to mention the reigning champion, Cheryl Weatherstone, from Beckenham. Barry Winch defends the men's title, where the main challenge is likely to come from Keith Langley and Andrew Morris. Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (902 1234). Today from 2pm and tomorrow from 2.30pm. Tickets £3-£5.

ST LEGER: The oldest horse-racing classic is being run over the mile and three quarters course at Doncaster. Sun Princess, who won the Oaks Epsom by a record 12 lengths, is the favourite. She is ridden by Willie Carson and trained by Dick Hern, who is looking for his sixth St Leger victory. If Sun Princess is successful, she is likely to take part in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamps in October. The race starts at 3.05pm and is being covered live on ITV's *World of Sport*.

BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL: A new event which opens today with music and dance from Ireland and India and a concert of works by Poulenc, played by the Ensemble Purus Quatuor, a leading French chamber ensemble making their first appearance in Britain. The week continues with a rock night and a reggae evening and special events for children. Box office: £52 Great Charles Street, Birmingham B3 (021 255 3453). Until Sept 17.

UNITED KINGDOM FIREWORKS FESTIVAL: Firework displays today and tomorrow at 8.30pm are the highlight of a weekend spectacular in Plymouth. The fireworks are being set off from a barge moored in Plymouth Sound, opposite the Royal Western Yacht Club. Supporting events include powerboat racing, band concerts and the annual races for waiters and waitresses. Further information from 0752 261125.

Tomorrow

JOHN PLAYER LEAGUE: Cricket's Sunday one-day competition will be decided this afternoon. Yorkshire lead the table by two points and will win the league for the first time if they beat Essex at Chelmsford, or if the match is a tie, or if Essex win, then Somerset can add this title to the NatWest Trophy by beating Warwickshire at Taunton. Television coverage in *Grandstand*, BBC2, from 2pm.

ITALIAN GRAND PRIX: Is being staged over 52 laps of the Monza road circuit where the last two victors have been René Arnoux and Alain Prost in Renaults. These drivers are the leading contenders for this year's world championship, with Prost currently leading by eight points. But with two races to go after this, Nelson Piquet and Patrick Tambay are still in with a chance. The race starts at 2.30pm, British time, and is being covered on *Grandstand*, BBC2, with highlights on BBC1 11.40am-12pm.

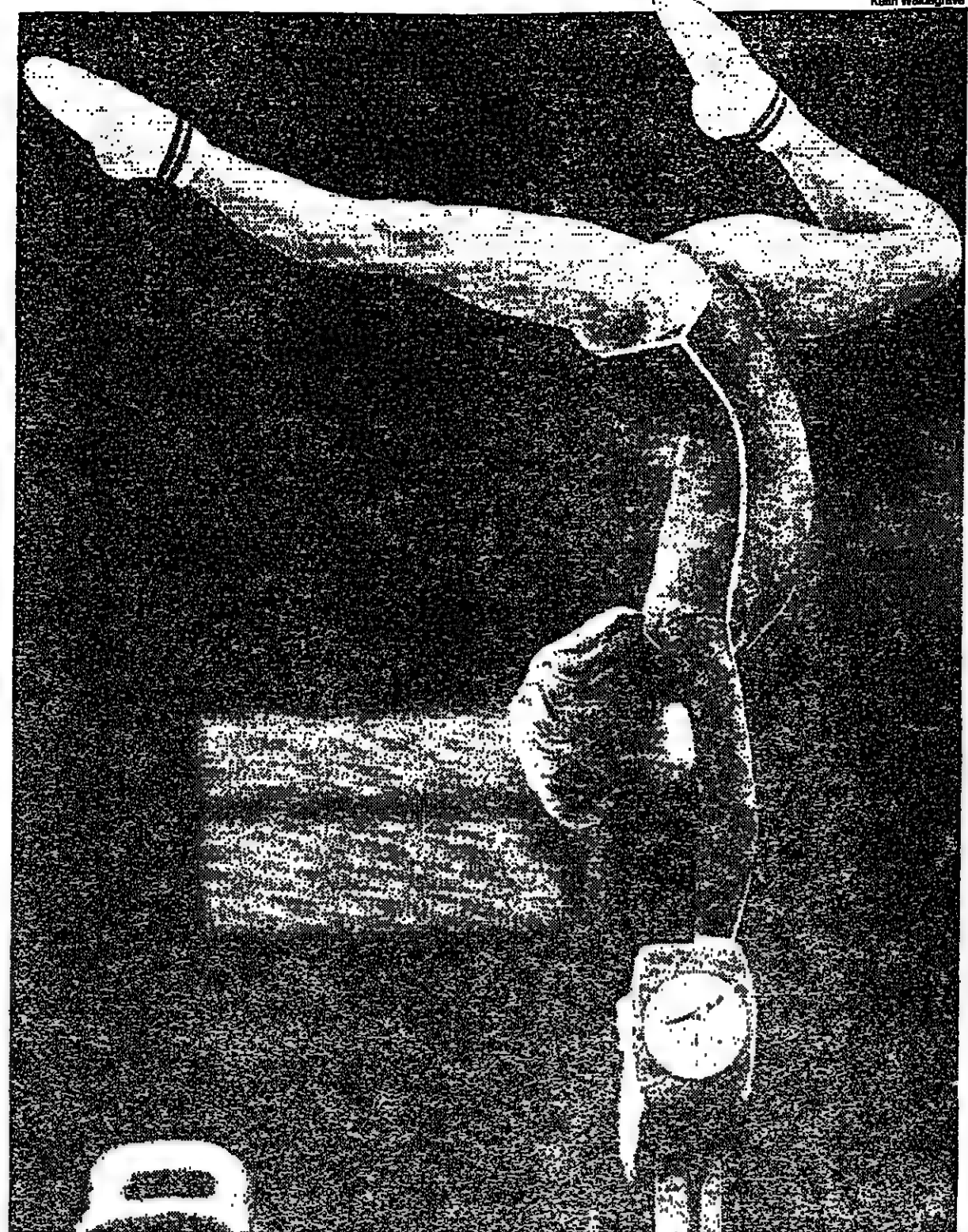
NEW WORLD VISIONS: The first of two films on the arts of America from 1650 to 1914, presented by Vincent Scully, Professor of Art History at Yale University. A joint project between American Public Television, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the BBC. It features items from the Met's collection, as well as going out into the American landscape to explore the country's cultural experience. The Met's coordinating producer was Caroline Kennedy, daughter of JFK. BBC2, 8-9pm.

Monday

FLOWER POWERS: A large number of flower paintings dominate a collection of works from the studio of the late Gerald Cooper and his wife, Muriel Minter, together with country subjects, estimates range from £50-£1,500. Cooper was a popular seller at the Royal Academy in the 1930s. Modern British pictures and sculpture at Phillips, London W1 (829 6602) 2pm.



Love: Thomas Hardy (Wednesday)



In the balance: Reigning champion Cheryl Weatherstone prepares to face some tough opposition from leading challengers Hayley Price and Sally Larner at the British National Gymnastics championships (see Today)

THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN: First major London revival of Peter Shaffer's 1963 play, which tells of the conquest of the Incas by Pizarro in the sixteenth century. The National Youth Theatre production is directed by Edward Wilson. Jeannette Cochrane Theatre (242 7040). Opens today at 7pm. Until Sept 24. Mon-Sat at 7pm; matinees Sept 13-16, Sept 20-24, at 2.30pm.

DEAR ANYONE: Jane Lapotnik. Stubby Kaye, Peter Blake, Stephanie Voss, lead in a new musical by Don Black, Geoff Stephens and Jack Rosenthal. Developed from an LP record issued five years ago, the plot concerns a newspaper "Agony Aunt" and her correspondence with her readers. Directed by David Taylor, designed by Ralph Kotal and Nadine Baylis, choreographed by Tudor Davies. Birmingham Repertory Theatre (021 238 4455). Opens today at 7.30pm. Until Oct 8. Mon-Fri at 7.30pm; Sat at 8pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm and Sat at 4pm.

221B: Nigel Stock in a one-man show as Doctor Watson, reminiscing about his colleague Sherlock Holmes (presumed dead at the Reichenbach Falls). On a regional tour and intended for the West End, it was written by Martin Reed, and is directed by Jack Emery. Theatre Royal, Brighton (0273 28488). Opens today at 7.45pm. Until Sept 17. Tues-Thurs at 7.45pm; Fri at 8.15pm; Sat at 8pm and 8.15pm; matinee Thurs at 2.30pm.

INFIDELITIES: Marivaux's period comedy, written in 1723, turns up in the BBC's *Play of the Month* slot in a production directed by Michael Darlow. The leading parts are played by people better known for their work in film than television. Charlotte Rampling and Robin Askwith. It is the story of a prince falling in love with a servant girl whose heart is already given to a boy from the village. BBC1, 9.25-11.

CHELSEA ANTIQUES FAIR: Is opened by the writer and broadcaster, John Julius (Lord) Norwich. Forty of the country's leading dealers will be showing their best pieces, all (except carpets and jewellery) dating from before 1830. The loan exhibition is Edwardian and earlier, from the private collection of Mary Lyttons. Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3. Mon-Sat 11am-7.30pm. Admission £1.50 (including catalogue). Until Sept 24.

CAMBRIDGE ANIMATION FESTIVAL: Six lively days of animated films, focusing this year on "Animation and Persuasion". Six programmes survey the field, from vicious

Hollywood jibes at the Japanese to a 1931 plug for the Conservative Party. Plus new work from America, experimental films by Robert Breer (Tues); later at the ICA in London, British premiere of feature by Marcel Jankovics (*Son of the White Mare*, Wed); the bizarre *Twice Upon a Time* (Fri), produced by George Lucas, all screenings at the Arts Cinema, Market Passage (0223 35200).

MEDEA: Barney Simon (director of *Wozzeck* Albert) directs his own adaptation of Euripides' reworking of the classical drama. Yvonne Bryceland heads a cast which includes David Calder, Caroline Embling, Peggy Phango, Terence Wilton. Direct from its European premiere at Edinburgh. Riverside Studios (745 5354). Preview today at 7.30pm; press night tomorrow at 7pm. Until Oct 2. Tues-Sun at 7.30pm.

Wednesday

NEW ART: For the first time in nearly 20 years, the Tate is staging its own survey show of contemporary art. Selected by Michael Compton, it takes an optimistic view of art and its potential in the 1990s, and exploits to the full the dramatic change which is felt to have come over art at the beginning of the decade. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (821 1313). Until Oct 23. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm.

TASTE: A review of the history of taste in design during the last two centuries. The show is divided into eight case studies, dealing with such isolated but inter-



Conquest Peter Shaffer (Monday)

related topics as the vogue for antiques, the romance of the machine and the effects of mass consumption on public taste. The show examines the meaning of "good design" and concludes with a selection of the best-selling products in Britain today. Boilerhouse, Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (581 5273). Until Nov 24. Mon-Thurs, and Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm.

DER ROSENKAVALER ON SCREEN: Paul Czinner's film of the 1950 Salzburg production of Richard Strauss's opera, with Herbert von Karajan conducting the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. In a new print. During the interval Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, who plays Marschallin, makes a rare personal appearance to talk about the production. Barbican Hall, London EC2 (628 8795/credit cards 638 8891) at 7pm. Tickets £3 and £4.50.

THE TRUMPET MAJOR: Thomas Hardy's historical romance, dramatized by Tony Perrin. A Wessex love story set against the background of the Napoleonic Wars and their effects on England. Victoria Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent (0782 615662). Opens today at 7.30pm. In repertory, Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm.

REFUGEE: Documentary, narrated by Peter Ustinov, on the estimated 100 million, men, women and children who, in this century, have been uprooted and made to flee from the country of their birth. Archive film helps to tell the story and includes such episodes as the Greeks fleeing from the Turks in 1922, the persecution of Jews by Hitler and the "boat people" of Vietnam. BBC2, 8.10-9pm.

Thursday

AUTUMN ROSES: The Royal National Rose Society's final show of the year at which the amateur rose growing championship will be decided. Among the blooms on display will be the yellow Mountbatten, rose of the year 1982, the tomato-red Beautiful Britain, this year's winner, and the orange-red Anna Ford. Royal Horticultural Society Hall, Vincent Square, London SW1 (834 4933). Today 11am-6pm, admission 80p; tomorrow 10am-5pm, admission 60p.

SOUND OF MUSIC: A cello from the London workshop of Simon Andrew Forster in 1831 (estimated £7,000) leads a sale of stringed, plucked, wind and brass musical instruments. There are also music staves and reference books. Phillips, London W1 (629 6602) at 11am.

MATTHEW SMITH: Nearly a hundred paintings, plus drawings, sketchbooks and photographs, give a vivid idea of how Matthew Smith evolved his highly personal sense of colour and pursued and developed certain themes such as nude and the flower-piece. The exhibition is built around the studio collection of his work which was given to the Corporation of London in 1974. Barbican Art Gallery, London EC2 (638 5403). Until Oct 30, Tues-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 12-6pm.

BRICKS AND BEER: The development of the look and feel of the English pub after the Beer Act of 1830 is brightly evoked through drawings, photographs and artefacts, mainly from the British Architectural Library. The first part of the show climaxes in the full-out glass splendour of late-Victorian times; the second shows the subsequent retreat towards secretiveness and respectability, and the later development of conservatism. Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1 (580 5533). Until Oct 29, Mon-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm.

DANTON: Andrzej Walda's successor to *Man of Iron* opens the Chelsea Cinema, King's Road. See page 7.

MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD: Dick Richards' film stars Martin Sheen, David Hemmings and Blythe Danner and concerns the arrival at Sheen's home of his son by a former liaison, Ceryn PG. Classic Haymarket (602 6644), and selected London cinemas.

PSYCHO II: Twenty-three years after Hitchcock's classic, Anthony Perkins returns to the Bates motel. Mother, alas, is still on his mind and the dead bodies soon pile up. A highly ingenious sequel, directed by the Australian Richard Franklin. With Vera Miles (another *Psycho* victim). Cent 15, Piazza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234).

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS: New play by David Mamet (author of *American Buffalo*). Derek Newark, Jack Shepherd, Trevor Ray, James Grant, Karl Johnson and John Tams in the cast; directed by Bill Bryden. Cottesloe (923 2252). Previews today and tomorrow, Sept 17, 19 and 20 at 7.30pm. Opens Sept 21 at 7pm in repertory.

THE DANCE OF DEATH: August Strindberg's mastery study of a bitter and disillusioned marriage marks the straight directorial debut of Kenneth Macmillan, and stars Edward Fox and Jill Bennett. The translation is by Michael Meyer. Royal Exchange, Manchester (061 6331 9950). Opens today at 8pm. Until Oct 22. Mon-Tues at 7.30pm; Wed-Sat at 8pm; matinees Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4.30pm.

THE OLD MEN AT THE ZOO: A powerful cast, including Robert Morley, Maurice Denham, Andrew Crichton and Marius Goring, has been assembled for a five-part dramatization by Troy Kennedy Martin of the novel by Angus Wilson. Set a few years in the future, it tells how a "National Zoo" survives political manipulation, nuclear war and fascist government merely by changing its directors, the old men of the zoo. Director is Stuart Burge. BBC2, 9.30-10.20pm.

Friday

NATIONAL CARRIAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The Duke of Edinburgh and his team will be trying to improve on last year's third place in the marathon and obstacle driving event during the three-day equestrian competition. Smith's Lawn, Windsor Great Park, Berkshire (information on 07535 80633). Today 8am-5pm. Tomorrow and Sunday 8am-6pm. Tickets £3-£5 per carload.

SNOOPY - THE MUSICAL: An expanded version of the successful American show based on the life and philosophy of the cartoon dog. Music by Larry Grossman, lyrics by Hal Hackaday, choreography by Kay Cole. Directed by Arthur Whitehead; musical director Stuart Pedlar. Cast includes Teddy Kempner, Robert Locke, Anthony Best, Koo Bright, Nicky Croydson, Mark Hadfield, Susie Blake, Duchess (836 6243). Previews today and Sept 17 at 6pm and 8pm; Sept 18 at 8pm. Opens Sept 20 at 7pm.

Week following

Sept 17: The Great Home Entertainment Spectacular, Olympia; last night of the Proms, Royal Albert Hall.



Death: August Strindberg (Thursday)

Rural reminder of the industrial past

To one whose childhood memories of Ambery are of one of the prettiest villages in southern England - a place to be visited after a local cricket match or en route to Arundel Castle - the fact that an industrial museum has found a place there came as something of a shock. Nevertheless, it works.

The open-air Ambery Chalk Pits Museum was established in 1979 primarily, as its director, Mr Ian Dean told me, "because there were so many local items being offered to other museums which simply hadn't the space for them". It has grown steadily, both in the number of exhibits - it houses and in the number of people who visit (an estimated 33,000 by the end of this season). You can now see literally thousands of artefacts, tools and buildings - from the smallest screwdriver to a Leyland 1920 "H" omnibus. The 36-acre site, still rural in setting, also houses Ambery's huge limekilns, once the largest industrial works in the area, a narrow-gauge railway and various steam locomotives and stationary steam engines. (You can ride on the bus or on a restored steam locomotive.)

There are also excellent displays on the history of road engineering from Roman times to the present day, presented with actual cross-sections of all kinds of road, a lot of what is described as "disappearing roadside furniture" including the last AA telephone box and wrought-iron street lamps, and a very good exhibition of wireless and vintage radio.

Children particularly will enjoy watching the blacksmith and potter at work. The former will be making anything from poker to iron gates, using traditional tools; the latter makes pottery from local clay and fires it in a wood-fire, down-draught kiln. Both are friendly and informative. Indeed, the staff at the museum, almost all of whom are voluntary, have a reputation for their hospitable attitude, a fact that earned them an honourable mention in Kenneth Hudson's *Good Museums Guide*.



Finishing touches: The museum's potter, Jim Stampton, at work

As the number of visitors increases and further exhibits are added or restored, the museum will inevitably become more crowded, and the industrial flavour will become stronger. Staff hope that the uncrowded, rural qualities will not vanish entirely - but if you and the children like to go round a museum in relative tranquility, now would be a good time to go.

There is something going on at the museum most weekends: today and tomorrow there is an annual craft fair with many demonstrations and items for sale as well as Morris dancers (today) and a village band (tomorrow); next Sunday there will be a Wireless Day held in conjunction with the British Wireless Society. For children whose preoccupation with our industrial heritage is less than intense, there is a fine nature trail to be explored - with wild orchids, wild pansies and a variety of trees to observe.

Light refreshments (tea, sticky buns, soft drinks) are on hand and there are two excellent pubs nearby, both with gardens. A guide to the museum (which will take about two and a half hours to tour if you are at all enthusiastic) costs 25p. If it fails to live up to your expectations, the surrounding countryside offers many other attractions.

Judy Froshaug
Ambery Chalk Pits Museum is at Houghton Bridge, Ambery, near Arundel, West Sussex (078881 370). It is quite well signposted if you approach by road and a stone's throw from Ambery station. The museum is open from April 1-Oct 30. Wed-Sun, 11am-5pm, adults £1.20, pensioners 90p, children 60p.

Outings
WIMBLEDON THEATRE OPEN DAY: The Broadway, London SW19. (540 0363). Today, 10am-6pm. Free.

An opportunity to look behind the scenes at the theatre and meet the people who run it and perform there. Also Punch and Judy, Morris and folk dancing, clowns, street theatre, jazz and steel bands.

BRENT SHOW
Roundwood Park, Willesden, London NW10. Today, 9am-5pm; tomorrow, 9am-6pm. Free. Arena events, horticultural and pet shows, slide stalls, furniture and a city farm on both days.

THE GIANT'S HAIR
The Little Angel Marionette Theatre, Dagmar Park, Cross Street, London N1 (225 1787). Today and Sept 17 at 11am and 3pm; tomorrow and Sept 18 at 3pm. Adult £1.50 morning performance, £2 evening, child £1 (£1.50).

One of our best-known puppeteers, Paul Hansard, presents the Little Angel's first show for autumn - a delightful entertainment for younger children.

THIRD HENRY COOPER WALKABOUT
White City Stadium, Wood Lane, London W12 (743 5541). Tomorrow, 10am-4.30pm. Free. Those participating in this fund-raising walk for handicapped and underprivileged children, organized by The Royal Club, would appreciate your support as they lap the stadium (10am-2pm). In the afternoon there will be plenty of family entertainment: the Royal Military Police motor cycle and horse display team, a national egg dropping competition, Royal

Marine Commando display team, Dagenham Girl Pipers and the Band of the Royal Marines. Also many side stalls and an autograph tent (have your photograph taken with a celebrity) and refreshments.

LOCAL FLYING DAY AND CONCORDE PULL
Duxford Airfield, Imperial War Museum, Cambridge (0223 833963). Tomorrow, 10am-5pm. Adult £1.50, child 80p. Demonstration flights, subject to weather conditions, by a Tiger Moth, T-33, Yak, Dakota, Dragon Rapide and "Sally B" - the only B-17 Flying Fortress in Europe that is still airworthy. Also pleasure flights and an opportunity to try your skills on the light-simulator machine, an attempt by a team of strong men to pull Concorde 01 round the airfield (for charity); refreshments, free parking and picnic space.

SUFFOLK PUNCH SPECTACULAR
Museum of East Anglian Life, Stowmarket, Suffolk (0449 512229). Tomorrow, from 11am. Adult 50p, child 40p. A chance to see Suffolk Punch stallions, mares, foals and geldings on show and working, and to take rides into town on a restored cart and horse-drawn bus pulled by a pair of Suffolks. Visitors will be able to drive Suffolks themselves using sets of harrows. Also competitions for young judges, mane and tail braiding and the best working cart horse. A farrier working all day.

CAPTAIN STRICK
Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford (0865 247133). Sept 17 at 8pm. Adult £3.50, child £3. One of the most successful productions by the Children's Music Theatre. Captain Strick is a ballad opera, set in the East End of London of 1807, which tells the story of a gang of young pickpockets. Children and adults alike should enjoy it.

Chess

Etiquette cossets the art of the masters

I found the recent Lloyds Bank Masters Tournament very interesting in its early stages, a little unsatisfying during its later phase and downright disappointing in its end. When the last round came there were three leaders, grandmasters Matanovic, Nunn and Razuvayev, all with 6½ points. Surely, I thought, these three will fight like fury to gain first place.

Matanovic had white against Razuvayev; Nunn had white against the young English international master King. Yugoslavs usually play hard against Russians and Nunn would have the opportunity of showing King the difference between a grandmaster and an ordinary master. In the event Matanovic had a peaceful draw in 18 moves with Razuvayev and Nunn demonstrated there was no real difference between a grandmaster and an ordinary master by drawing a peaceful game in 24 moves. This at any rate enabled William Watson to come up to equal the other three with a 50-move win over Cummings.

So there was a tie for first place among Matanovic, Nunn, Razuvayev, and Watson, Razuvayev winning the trophy on the sum of opponents' scores. Still more egalitarian were the next places as the four international masters Harston, Johansen, King, Murcy along with the grandmaster Tarjan and the untitled Israeli player Shvidler, tied with each other for the fifth to tenth places.

With 6 points each there came a further eight players: Britton, Cummings, Hawksworth, grandmaster Keene, Kepec, Levenc, international master Ravikumar, and Wicker. The Argentine grandmaster Miguel Quinteros, together with the Hungarian grandmaster Bilek, shared the next place with 24 players.

Ab, I thought, it was not like that last year when we had dynamic characters as Tony Miles and Viktor Korchnoi playing.

Then it occurred to me to look up the November number of the *British Chess Magazine* to see the result of last year's tournament and I discovered that a highly similar state of affairs prevailed then. Five players - grandmasters Miles and Hort, along with Gutman, Hebden and Johansen - tied for first place with 7 points. Then there were 130 players and again 9 rounds. Miles was awarded the trophy on sum of

opponents' scores and there was hardly any difference in the results.

Perhaps it needs more than 9 rounds to secure a clear result as many as 130 players. Or could it be that the Swiss system draw is being so charitably managed as to procure the greatest number of master norms for the players, rather than concerning itself with the prosaic endeavour to determine the best player in the competition.

If the latter is the case then might I suggest a more fitting title for such norms, perhaps "mini-master". It is open to variations: "minuscule-master" or "drop-in-the-ocean-master".

Bridge

Television bids to lose the stuffed shirts

The third series of *Grand Slam* begins on BBC2 this evening. The response to the last series was gratifying, most judges concluded that the BBC had made considerable technical improvements, especially in terms of visual clarity.

The adverse criticism was directed at four main points:

The card play. It was suggested that first, there was not enough of it, and second, that it either went too fast or too slowly. There is more card play this year, but no obvious solution to the second point. The producer must try to make the bridge comprehensible to all, but no television programme will be deemed a success if it drags.

The grinnaces of the players. I am the first to agree that until now Lord Olivier had no need to fear histrionic competition from bridge players. But the producer is faced with a choice. Either the players must sit like stuffed dummies during their thought tracks, or they must be allowed to show some animation. No one would expect Hamlet to deliver his soliloquies with a dead pan, so provided it is not

overdone, the players should at least give some sign of life. Those who believe that bridge players are incapable of doing so in a natural manner are in for a pleasant surprise this year.

East-West game. Dealer West			
	W	E	
June Friday		July Friday	
♠ A Q 8 8		♠ 10	
♥ Q 8		♥ K 5	
♦ A J 9		♦ K 8 2	
♣ 5 4		♣ 8 6 2	

Harry Golombek

مذمن لامل

Investment
and
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 704.9 up 8.7
FT 100: 79.98 up 0.01
FT All Share: 451.21 up 2.96
(Datastream estimate)
Bargains: 18,020
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 99.17 up 0.17
New York: Dow Jones
Average: (latest) 1242.78
down 28.46
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index: 9304.01 down 28.46
Hong Kong: HSI Index
1059.11 up 2.18
Amsterdam: 150.7 up 0.5
Sydney: AO Index 730.3 up
3.4
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index 924.80 down 8.50
Brussels: General Index
133.28 up 0.51
Paris: CAC Index 134.7
down 0.2
Zurich: SKA General 288.7
down 0.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4930 up 10pts
Index 84.7 down 0.1
DM 3.9850 down 0.0025
FF 11.9975 down 0.0225
Y 365.50 up 0.5
Dollar
Index 129.0 unchanged
DM 2.6725
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4940
Dollar DM 2.6752 INTER-
NATIONAL
ECU 0.570038
SDRE 0.702816

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9%
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9%
3 month interbank 9%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10%
3 month DM 6%
3 month FR 4%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11
Fed funds 5%
Treasury long bond 10 1/4
10 1/2%
ECB Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period 3 August to 8
September, 1983 inclusive:
9.939 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
Silver \$414.50 pm
Gold \$414.25-415 (227.50-
278)
New York latest: \$414.75
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$426.75-428.25 (285.75-
286.75)
Sovereigns (new):
\$57.50-58.50 (\$55.25-56.00)
*Excludes VAT

Hint of Opec
price curb

A leading minister in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries appeared to hint yesterday that an immediate increase in either oil prices or Opec production levels.

Dr Mansoor Othman, Oil Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Opec's acting secretary-general, said at an energy seminar in Oxford that he saw no reason for Opec to raise its production ceiling of 17.5m barrels a day.

Meanwhile, the outcome of next week's Opec meeting is likely to have a bearing on the success of the Government's planned sale of another £500m of BP shares. The sale is expected to be announced next week, with the prospectus being issued early the following week.

The planned sale by Ellerman Lines, the troubled shipping group, of its leisure division to the privately-owned Bourne Leisure may have foundered.

An Ellerman spokesman said: "We are still in communication with Bourne and do not regard the deal as definitely off." No director was available to comment at Bourne's Hemel Hempstead headquarters. The sale of Ellerman's leisure and travel division was announced in June. No price was disclosed.

At one time it appeared that only bids for the entire shipping group, one of Britain's biggest private companies, would be accepted.

But the planned sale to Bourne, of one division led to a revision of the all-or-nothing policy, and it is now likely that other parts of Ellerman, such as the J W Cameron and Tollemache and Cobbold breweries, will be sold off separately.

Bourne, a private company, is run by the four families which sold Leisure Caravan Parks to the Rank Organisation for £20m in 1979.

United Newspapers and the Liverpool Post & Echo yesterday announced the formation of a joint company to publish a free newspaper in St Helens. The St Helens Leader. The company is called Merseyside and Lancashire Publications.

New generation of spacecraft may be built in Britain

British Aerospace joins Hughes to
fight for £330m satellite deal

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

British Aerospace's Space and Communications Division has joined the American aviation giant Hughes Aircraft to bid for a maritime satellite communication contract worth more than £330m.

The new generation of satellites to be launched between 1988 and 1991 are for the International Maritime Satellite Organisation (Inmarsat), which has invited tenders for building possibly as many as nine satellites for global ship communication.

They will be made by British Aerospace at Stevenage and Bristol if the bid is successful and the "payload" - the communication electronics on the spacecraft - will be supplied by Hughes.

Satellite manufacture is a growth area for British Aerospace.

Two years ago, sales of the Space and Communications Division was more than £77m. Last year that grew to about £120m, and the division now has orders in excess of £300m.

Under the chairmanship of Sir Austin Pearce, British Aerospace realized sales last year of £2,053m.

The company says: "The successful bidder will be selected early in 1985 - 36 months before the delivery of the first spacecraft. Satellites will be purchased outright or leased from the manufacturers."

Each satellite will be required to handle about 125 communication channels, nearly three times the capacity of the communication satellite series Marcom, now in use.

British Aerospace and Hughes have been collaborating since the early 1960s, and have worked together on the Inmarsat communication satellites series, the most recent project being worth £560m.

Satellite communications on ships have grown dramatically. About 2,000 ships are equipped with the electronics for such communication, but by the end of the decade that number is expected to have grown fivefold.

The satellites which will be launched either by the Shuttle or the European rocket Ariane will be placed in geostationary orbit - appearing to remain in a fixed position - 22,000 miles above the earth.

British Aerospace has already formed a new company, United Satellites, in partnership with GEC-Marconi (Space and Defence Systems) and British Telecom. It is this group which will build the direct television satellite named Unisat, on which the BBC has been allocated two channels. It will be operational, beaming television programmes direct to people's homes from space, by 1986.

The first television pictures to be beamed by satellite reception by cable television operators in Britain will be transmitted from this satellite next January using one of the channels allocated to Satellite Television which is 65 per cent owned by News International, proprietors of Times Newspapers, The Sun and News of the World.

The new maritime satellites are also expected to offer facilities to small craft.



Pearce: high hopes

times the capacity of the communication satellite series Marcom, now in use.

British Aerospace and Hughes

Brengreen buys 7%
of Sunlight Service

By Jeremy Warner

Brengreen has bought 7 per cent of Sunlight Services, the laundry and dry cleaning group for which it is bidding £31m in a series of stock market purchases.

The move caused surprise in the City. It was thought that the possibility of the bid being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission with other proposed takeovers in the laundry business, would deter the office cleaning group from buying.

But the chairman of Brengreen, Mr David Evans, yesterday emerged from a meeting at the Office of Fair Trading confident that his bid would win clearance.

The OFT is the body responsible for deciding whether mergers should be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Brengreen spent several hours with deputy director, Miss Elizabeth Llewellyn-Smith, putting its case against reference.

Its business does not directly overlap with Sunlight. But the position has been complicated because Sunlight has made a £21m bid for another cleaner, Spring Grove, Spring Grove, in

turn, is already subject to an agreed £15m bid from another cleaning company, Pritchard.

The OFT told Sunlight before it made its offer for Spring Grove that such a move would probably be referred to the Monopolies Commission. But, facing an unwanted bid from Brengreen, it decided to proceed anyway.

Brengreen argued that the OFT's normally "even handed" approach, under which if one bid is referred, all related takeover bids get the same treatment, should be abandoned in this case since the Sunlight offer for Spring Grove would be dropped if it wins control of Sunlight.

Unless the Government mergers panel takes the view that the bids provide an opportunity to examine the whole of the cleaning industry before privatization of hospital and local authority ancillary services, it appears that the OFT will accept this argument.

Yesterday's market purchases were made at 250p a share - 12p below the value that Brengreen's share offer places on them.

Thorn feels
Winter's
discontent

By Derek Pain

Film producer Donovan Winter's production company, Thorn, has been referred to the Monopolies Commission.

With two other shareholders he succeeded in forcing Sir Richard Cave, chairman, to conduct a poll on the adoption of the report and accounts.

Out of 47.5 million shares there has been a split. Mr Winter and his two supporters could muster just 21%.

But their action kept the Thorn meeting, at London's Barbican Centre, going for more than two hours and, if nothing else, demonstrated the nuisance value of the small shareholder.

Mr Winter feels he has every excuse for kicking up a fuss. He claims that Thorn failed, as promised, to distribute a film he made called *Give Us Tomorrow*, starring Sylvia Sims.

Prepared for a long, acrimonious meeting and hoping to keep the 14-man board from their lunch as long as possible he arrived at the Barbican armed with his own lunch - sandwiches, and apple, and a bottle of milk.

Mr Winter is taking legal action against Thorn and the case is expected to come before the courts next month.

As soon as Sir Richard invited inquiries on the report and accounts, Mr Winter jumped to his feet and fired a barrage of questions. Sir Richard suggested that many were sub judice and it was not in the interest of other shareholders to give detailed replies to Mr Winter's other points.

The poll demand came after Sir Richard, with the support of most shareholders, tried to end the meeting.

Mr Michael Ashcroft has established a strategic shareholding of 29.9 per cent in Cope Allman International after the success of the tender offer for shares made by his Hawley Group.

Mr David Wickens, who controls 13.6 per cent of Cope's shares through his British Car Auctions Group, is believed to have tendered.

Public borrowing
well above target

By Frances Williams

Economics Correspondent

Central government borrowing was £1,300m last month to bring the total for the first five months of the financial year to £7,689m.

The figures have been swollen this year by heavy borrowing from the national loans fund by town halls and state industries, much of which has been used to repay loans from other sources and so has not affected public sector borrowing overall.

In addition, government finances typically improve in the second half of the year.

But there remains clear signs that government spending is still running well above plans. Spending on supply services - the spending by government departments on the service they provide - is running about 8 per cent higher than last year, compared with the planned 5.4 per cent.

Bass buys 80 bingo halls

By Our Financial Staff

The Bass brewing group yesterday acquired 80 bingo halls and one snooker club from Thorn-EMI in a £18.2m deal.

Bass already owns the Coral bingo halls and the deal lifts its chain to more than 100.

It is keen to develop its non-drink interests like most leading brewers. Bass owns the Ponds holiday camp group and with its Crest subsidiary, a Britain's second largest hotel group.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
BORROWING REQUIREMENT

	Monthly total (£m)	Cumulative total (£m)
1982-83		
Oct	307	5,886
Nov	300	6,486
Dec	1,892	8,378
Jan	2,051	10,429
Feb	-1,791	8,638
Mar	1,143	9,781
1983-84		
Apr	1,192	1,192
May	1,717	2,909
June	2,547	5,456
July	830	6,286
Aug	1,303	7,589

Source: Treasury

The £1,000m emergency package of spending cuts and asset sales announced by the Chancellor in July has yet to bite, but officials were emphasizing yesterday that the latest figures back his contention that urgent action was required.

First-half rise of £3.9m
at European Ferries

By Our Financial Staff

Pretax profits of European Ferries, the shipping banking and property group, have climbed £3.9m to £28.9m at the interim stage.

A dramatic turnaround in shipping fortunes is largely responsible for the advance. Yesterday the new chairman, Mr Kenneth Siddle, reported that the shipping division achieved interim profits of £12m, despite being pulled back by strikes. In the same period last year it lost £1.8m.

The banking and property side recorded a £900,000 advance but the harbour operations returns were unchanged at £4.3m.

Mr Siddle, successor to Mr Keith Wickenden, who died in an aircraft crash in July, announced an interim dividend of 1.1p a share (1p). On the results the shares fell 1p to 77p.

European Ferries
Half-year 30.6.83
Pretax profit £28.9m (£25m)
Stated earnings 1.7p (1.6p)
Turnover £119.8m (£120.0m)
Net interest dividend 1.1p (1.0p)
Share price 77p
Dividend payable 25.11.83

Euroferries shipping results were helped by profits on ship sales, which amounted to £400,000. But the group suffered an exchange loss of £400,000.

Mr Siddle, previously the group's managing director, said yesterday that Euroferries was not "at the present" interested in bidding for Ellerman Lines. "But our view could change although I regard such a change as unlikely".

The group had started the second half year relatively well with encouraging early indications for the shipping side he said.

WALL STREET
Blue chips
lose initial
strength

New York, (Reuters) - Wall Street Stock prices fell yesterday after initial strength in blue chip issues.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 3 points to 1244. In the broader market losing issues gained by nearly six to five. Volume was about 19 million shares.

Diamond Shamrock, again the most active stock, rose 1/4 to 26 1/2. The company has tested what it called a significant confirmation well in Wyoming.

Oil was weaker: Exxon was down 1/4 to 38 1/2; Phillips Petroleum at 36 was down 1/4; Atlantic Richfield at 48 1/2 was down 1/4; Occidental Petroleum at 24 1/2 was down 1/4 and Standard Oil of California at 37 1/2 was down 1/4.

General Dynamics at 52 1/2 was up 1/4; Boeing at 40 1/2 was down 1/4; Lockheed at 39 1/2 was up 1/4; McDonnell Douglas at 49 1/2 was down 1/4.

Reagan to promote
investment abroad

From Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan pledged yesterday to put the full weight of his Administration behind US companies' attempts to invest abroad.

In an important address which the White House said was the first statement of US investment policy goals since 1977, the President put particular emphasis on increasing US direct investment in developing countries which have tried to control such investment to lessen their dependence of foreign companies and governments.

Mr Reagan reiterated the US determination to expand trade in important services such as banking, insurance and shipping by working through both multilateral and bilateral agreements.

"International investment flows significantly affect the United States and world economies. With the current environment of widespread international debt problems, foreign direct investment flows take on increased importance," Mr Reagan said.

The Administration has repeated its belief that in lieu of big budget increases for international organizations such as the World Bank, it supported a resurgence of direct investment by private companies as the best means of helping developing countries.

Yesterday's statement sought to assure some governments that the United States regarded free investment access as a two-way street and would, therefore, welcome initiatives from abroad.

A Treasury official said Mr Reagan's statement differed in tone from that of the former president, Mr Jimmy Carter. "Our's is highly affirmative statement in which we welcome foreign direct investment whereas the Carter statement was neutral in tone and little to either help US companies or encourage foreign businesses", the official said.

President Reagan also said his Administration would examine the complaints of US companies who claim that foreign governments discriminate against them.

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Former chairman wins £180,000 compensation
John Brown settles claim

By Andrew Cornall

John Brown, the troubled engineering group, agreed to the swift settlement of a £180,000 compensation claim from Sir John Mayhew-Sanders, the former chairman, because it feared that it would have to pay £360,000 if the claim was settled in the courts.

Sir John Cuckney, the new chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that the company had made a mistake in failing to renew the terms of the five-year service contract held by his predecessor.

The company had a mandatory obligation to specify whether the service agreement was to be extended each year. "But this was not done," Sir John said. This meant that the maximum portion of the £180,000 a year contract was longer than was expected.

Later Sir John confirmed that reason for agreeing a fast settlement was commercial. The company wanted to avoid the damage which might have been caused by lengthy litigation, he said.



Mayhew-Sanders: Victory out of court

negotiations had begun with four companies which were interested in taking over the John Brown Engineering gas turbine works at Clydebank.

Negotiations to sell the company to Hawker Siddeley in a £30m deal collapsed last month. Since, a small queue of bidders had formed, he added. Three of the bidders were interested in working with JBE on a joint venture basis.

Shareholders would be given details of the company's strategy early next year.

The board will also have decided on how to tackle the problem of easing its debts of £130m. One option is to arrange a capital reconstruction of the company, or to seek permission to increase net debt to twice the level of shareholders' funds, against the 1.5 times shareholders' funds permitted at present.

City Editor's Comment

At last the pay-off
from overseas

Since 1979, when exchange controls were abolished, Britain's pension funds and insurance companies have sent some £16,000m abroad to invest in overseas stocks and shares, provoking an outcry from trade unionists and others who believe the cash would be better spent at home.

Given the parlous state of British industry over this period, that is not at all obvious. There is little evidence that companies at home are deprived of the funds they want because the institutions prefer to place their money abroad.

Rather, the problem has been that companies have been reluctant to invest in Britain because the prospects for a decent return have looked so dismal. For that, the Government, rather than the financial institutions should be held to account.

The decision to use North Sea oil revenues, which began to flow in 1979, to run a massive surplus on the balance of payments current account made the exodus of funds overseas inevitable: the current and capital accounts must balance.

Add to that the strength of sterling, buoyed by its petrocurency status, and foreign investments look overwhelmingly attractive.

Now at last there are signs that these investments are paying off. New estimates by Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, suggest that institutions' net earnings from foreign portfolios could rise to £1,200m next year, compared with £490m in the first half of 1983 and £500m in the whole of last year.

This should help to offset Britain's worsening trade balance in goods and provide a cushion in future years when oil revenues start to decline, the broker points out.

Wood Mackenzie also expects a slowing in the pace of overseas investment

next year as funds reach their target levels for foreign assets as a proportion of portfolios.

This continuing income flow from abroad is, of course, exactly what the Government intended. The snag is that investment in overseas assets represents only two-thirds of total oil revenues since 1979.

Far from being invested elsewhere, the remainder has gone to subsidize growing debt queues at home. There will be no return from that.

How fortunes
are built

Few among our rising entrepreneurs have mastered the intricate tactics and strategy necessary to win the takeover game as well as Mr Michael Ashcroft.

His personal fortune, worth well above £10m, has been built on the ability to spot a business opportunity, then persist until his objective is achieved.

Take, for example, Cope Allman, the Bell fruit machine company which had gone down hill but is recovering under new management. Mr Ashcroft failed in his first attempt to buy the company at 60p a share through Dowdall, a consortium.

A member of that consortium was his old friend Mr David Wickens, chairman of British Car Auctions. The two influence about 40 per cent of the Lotus Group.

Details are still hazy on what happened after Dowdall's offer lapsed, but Mr Wickens and Mr Ashcroft emerged with about 12.5 per cent each of Cope. Mr Ashcroft took his holding to about 20 per cent. He was tendered successfully for shares to take his stake up to almost 30 per cent.

It is believed Mr Wickens has retained most of his shares, and between them they influence more than 40 per cent of Cope.

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5. M&G Group

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2. Hill Samuel
3. Allied Hambro
4. TSB Trust Co.
5. Lloyds Bank

Over four years

1. Henderson
2. Save & Prosper
3. TSB Trust Co.
4. Allied Hambro
5. Hill Samuel

Over five years

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2. Allied Hambro
3. TSB Trust Co.
4. Lloyds Bank
5. M&G Group

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2. Allied Hambro
3. M&G Group
4. TSB Trust Co.
5. Barclays Unicorn

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4. M&G Group
5. Barclays Unicorn

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Foreign shares

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Early leavers

Investment

How to be safe from fluctuations

Investors in North America, having seen handsome profits on both shares and currency appreciation are becoming nervous.

For those who want to stay in American shares but are worried about currencies, the fund manager Fidelity has found the answer - a fund which provides almost total protection from any fall in the dollar, while remaining invested in United States equities. Fidelity's Sterling American Fund invests in United States shares through Fidelity's American Trust and Fidelity's American Special Situations Trust, both British authorised unit trusts. But by hedging the dollar with forward currency contracts and where appropriate, back-to-back loans, the Sterling American Fund can virtually eliminate any currency risk. Those investors who are prepared to take the currency risk can simply opt for either of the two authorised unit trusts.

Fidelity American Trust has shown a 226 per cent appreciation since its launch in December, 1979 and Fidelity American Special Situations Trust is up 120 per cent since its start in November, 1980.

Up to four switches a year between these two funds and the Sterling American Fund, which provides the protection against currency fluctuations, are free. Investors should be aware though that if they opt for the Sterling American Fund, they will also forfeit any appreciation of the dollar against Sterling.

United Kingdom authorised unit trusts are restricted in their ability to buy forward currency contracts to provide protection from currency fluctuations. To circumvent this, Fidelity has taken the Sterling American Trust off-shore to Jersey where there are no such constraints.

New Japan unit trust

The number of unit trusts continues to mount with a dozen or more expected soon. Latest addition is a Japan. Smaller Companies Trust from Britannia. Its Japan Performance Fund was last year's best performing Japanese trust and Britannia has a good record with smaller company trusts generally. Units in the new trust are available at the fixed offer price of 10p per unit (initial investment £500) until September 30th.

Perking up

THE APPEAL of something for nothing is difficult to resist. Knowing shareholders' weakness for free "perks" Mr Alan Ramsey has compiled a guide to concessions, *Perks from Shares*. The book lists concessions, the qualifying shareholding required, and gives companies a star ranking ranging from three stars (Lorho, European Farmes, Gieves Group, P & O and Skelchey), for exceptionally generous, to one-star, which is a "friendly gesture, but hardly an incentive".

Perks from Shares is published by Kogan Page and the paperback version costs £3.95.

Abbey trainees

Abbey National is recruiting school leavers to fill 370 places on the Government's Youth Training Scheme.

Recruitment is being handled locally through the careers service, who refer young people to the society's offices which have places available.

Abbey National is providing a year's work coupled with training in

office and customer service skills and will also introduce the trainees to office technology now being installed.

The government scheme does not provide a permanent job at the end of the 12 months so Abbey National is using the latter part to give training in job seeking and interview techniques.

High interest

Bradford & Bingley Building Society has introduced a high-interest account offering 0.5 per cent above the ordinary share rate for just seven days' notice of withdrawal. This amounts to 7.75 per cent net or 7.89 per cent if you allow the interest to roll-up and it is compounded half yearly. Minimum investment in the "Premium Access Account" is £250, with a monthly income facility on £1,000 or more.

Super account

London Permanent Building Society is paying 9.2 per cent on its Super Bonus Account. There is no fixed term but you must give six months' notice of withdrawal if you want to avoid penalties.

If you want money sooner, you can withdraw it at two months' notice but will lose two months' interest on the sum withdrawn. Minimum investment is £500.

This compares quite favourably with the two-year term shares being offered by most societies which pay 1.75 per cent over the ordinary share rate of 7.25 per cent.

Latest edition

The latest edition of the Consumers' Association's, *Which Book of Saving and Investment* is now available, giving up-to-date information on all aspects of saving. Like all *Which* publications it is clearly written, with examples of returns from different types of investment and information on where to get help. It costs £10.95 from bookshops or from the Consumers' Association, Castlemead, Gascoyne Way, Hertford, SG14 1LH.

Puff adder

Phoenix Assurance has increased the non-smoker's discount given on its term assurance rates to 33½ per cent. This means that non-smokers

enjoy a bonus of 50 per cent more life assurance cover than cigarette smokers for the same premium. The discount is available to all proposers, including pipe and cigar smokers, who have not smoked cigarettes during the past year and have no intention of doing so again.

Pension guide

Changing jobs can create pension problems but the Company Pensions Information Centre feels that the problem is not as serious as many critics make out. For example, it believes that a pension of less than two-thirds of retirement salary should not automatically be described as inadequate though it does not say why people who change jobs should be content with a lower pension than those who stay.

The centre has published a booklet on how changing jobs affects one's pension. It is available free from the Company Pensions Information Centre, 7 Old Park Lane, London W1Y 3LJ.

Other subjects covered are: how to understand your pension scheme; how to explain your pension scheme; pensions for women; how a pension fund works and what is a pension fund trustee?

Cheque charges up

Charges for non-TSB customers cashing cheques during TSB late opening periods are being doubled to £1. Exceptions are customers of Bank of Scotland, Royal Bank of Scotland, Clydesdale, Allied Irish, Bank of Ireland, Northern and Ulster.

Multi-currency fund

Standard Chartered Fund Managers (C.I.) has launched a new accumulating multi-currency fund with a minimum investment of £1,000 or the equivalent in US dollars, Deutschmarks, Swiss francs or yen. The annual management charge is 0.75 per cent

and repayment is available at two days notice.

Interest which is earned at money market rates is accumulated so that all income is reflected as growth and holders will be liable to capital gains tax or corporation tax on disposal of the shares, not income tax.

How to be retired

Equity & Law, the life assurance company with more than 250,000 pension-scheme clients, has published a booklet giving pre-retirement advice to pension fund members. *Planning for Retirement* provides notes on, and a check-list of, a number of topics which people approaching retirement should consider, including activities, holidays and travel, retirement jobs, housing, health and investment and savings.

It also gives lists of publications where further information can be obtained. A copy can be obtained free from Marketing Information Services (Dept RP), Equity & Law, Freepost, High Wycombe HP13 5BR.

Seminar

Vested interests go to war over pensions

What promises to be the biggest and most noisy debate yet on the vexing problem of pensions is set for next Wednesday. The Department of Health and Social Security is organizing the event, in London, on the lines of a seminar with invited speakers, and delegates attending will be encouraged to question the experts on the platform.

The vested interests have already begun their campaigns, with insurers, pension advisers, consulting actuaries and pension fund managers deluging the media with their views.

If any serious proposals are to come of this debate the chairman, Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, will have to keep a tight grip.

Most pressing problems is what to do about early leavers - employees who leave a pension fund before retirement age either with enforced redundancy or because they join another company.

Mr David Parrell, a pension consultant, whose views will strike a sympathetic chord among job changers says: "The treatment of a person's pension provision when he changes jobs, often verges on the criminal."

"Some of the transfer values offered to redundant employees are iniquitous, but these frozen pension values are not sacrosanct. Examination of the figures and pressure on the pension office will often produce enhanced values for the employee."

The problem has been that for decades, the contributions of early leavers have been used to subsidize the pensions of the minority of employees who stay the course to retirement age.

The Occupational Pensions Board made some sound proposals which would oblige pension funds to operate the "frozen" pension benefits of early leavers or deferred pensioners by up to 3 per cent a year.

The National Association of Pension Funds, which represents the big companies, protested, saying that it would cost employers more to give early leavers a fair deal.

Since two independent pension fund monitoring and several consulting actuaries have said that many pension funds are at present producing surpluses which would allow improvements in pension benefits for early leavers at little or no extra cost.

Others feel that the answer is to allow mobile employees the opportunity to take their accumulated pension contributions and invest in a "self-employed" contract, when they change jobs.

Mr Harry Verney, a pension consultant says: "A pension is a person's own remuneration deferred until retirement age and

therefore its management should, as far as possible, be given to the individual."

"Taking a pension to a self-employed scheme would give the individual a direct way of managing the investment of his pension."

He says that if an employer can offer a better deal than is available under a self-employed scheme, then employees will want to remove their money.

Under present legislation the employer can offer virtually whatever he likes, giving the employee no real choice.

There should be no real differences between pension schemes for the employed, and the self-employed, according to Mr John Greener, another consultant.

At the moment, the amount which the self-employed can pay into a scheme is limited and the employee is limited by the amount of benefits they can draw.

Mr Greener would like to see a fairer distribution of the assets of pension funds, doing away with cross subsidies.

This would give a more

equitable deal to deferred pensioners but may involve some reduction in benefits for those who stay to retirement age.

Mr Greener believes that reform of occupational pension schemes is essential, because unless private sector pensions can provide adequate benefits for all, nothing can be done to reduce the mounting burden of state pensions.

Legislation is the only answer says Mr Greener. "There will be no major change in the involved and diverse approach to pensions in the private sector until the Government introduces legislation."

Legal and General, Britain's largest pensions company, has come out in favour of partially protecting the pension rights of job changers, but is against a do-it-yourself liberalization of pensions. It claims that a Gallup survey carried out on its behalf showed that people are not prepared to pay for the sort of pension they wanted.

This is at odds with the findings of a survey conducted by the Equal Opportunities Commission, which revealed that most people would be prepared to pay more to equalize retirement ages.

The biggest worry is that pension fund members have no central body to represent their interests. The trade unions represent a minority of pension funds' members and there is the fear that their real interest is in controlling the high assets of the pension funds - not fighting for a fair deal.

Mr Fowler will have his work cut out if he is to hear the voice of the pension fund members over the clamour of the vested interests.

Stock exchanges

Europe leads the world with biggest rises in share indices

European stock exchanges - and particularly those in Scandinavia - have seen the biggest rises among world share markets this year. The index for the small Norwegian stock exchange has more than doubled, while the Danish one stands over 80 per cent higher. The Swedish market has also managed a 70 per cent gain.

The strong performance of the continental exchanges finds recognition in the 1983 unit trusts league table with five funds concentrating on European shares currently listed in the top 30.

Lower oil prices, of course, have certainly helped Europe, which is heavily dependent on imported energy. What has also boosted European markets, though, over the past year or so, has been the change in government policies in several countries.

Moves to cut public spending and balance government books have been accompanied by incentives to stimulate investment. Belgium, Holland, Norway and Sweden have all followed the French example of tax-saving schemes to encourage equity purchases by the private investor. The enthusiastic response has frequently had a dramatic impact on small markets.

In recent months, European exchanges have also gained from

several of the exciting high-technology and chemical stocks. Although it has been a mixture of European, American and Japanese trusts as well as a couple of energy funds which have taken the top places for the year so far, it was those managers who had their money "down under" who saw the best performances last month.

What provided a particularly welcome boost for Australian stocks was the recent Federal Budget, which did not contain any of the harsh new taxes on local mining companies that had been expected. Of the dozen funds specializing in Australian securities, Stewart showed the biggest rise with a 12.6 per cent offer price gain. Gartmore Australian was second with a 10 per cent rise.

Funds investing in the United States, which have made some handsome gains over the past year, had a poor month in August. Continuing nervousness about the trend of American interest rates saw the Dow Jones Industrial Index only 1.4 per cent higher over the last four weeks. Of the 52 trusts only Abbey American Growth achieved an offer price gain - and then only a marginal 0.2 per cent funds, in fact, suffered quite sharp falls. Mercury American Growth was 8.4 per cent down on the month.

American institutional buying. Clearly, though, if this money was withdrawn again as quickly as it has been put in, some markets could face a sharp setback.

However, Mr Hugh Priestley, investment manager of the £3.6m Henderson European Fund, believes that "Continental stock markets should hold their own" compared with other areas over the next few months. As for his own fund, he already has about half his portfolio invested in the prosperous Scandinavian markets

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UK and US stock markets are reflecting economic recovery prospects

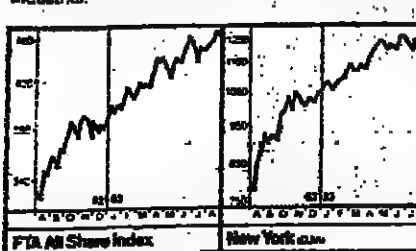
Invest now for future growth

and at a 2% discount in two outstanding Schroder growth funds.

The recovery has begun

There is now firm evidence on both sides of the Atlantic that the western economies are moving out of recession and back into growth.

The indications include rising corporate profits, faster manufacturing output, increased export orders, a reversal of the decline in GNP and more stable interest rates. All of these factors have greatly increased confidence - in itself an important element in the recovery trend, and are reflected in both the FTSE All Share Index and the Dow Jones Industrial.



Source: Investment Chronicle (Sept 3rd, 1983)

Enhanced equity prospects

The return to economic health in Britain and the United States has important implications for shares. Those of the more substantial Blue Chip companies and those in the vanguard of the new technologies have already seen the beginnings of a favourable re-rating. Meanwhile, the attractions of these traditional manufacturing, retail and service industries are being reconsidered anew in the light of lower interest rates and increased business activity. A climate of increased confidence is directing a sizeable flow of institutional cash in the direction of equities.

We believe this present climate represents an opportunity to invest for capital growth.

The best way to invest

For most private investors there is no better way to invest in equities than through unit trusts.

providing as they do considerable advantages in management, taxation and administration.

Today with more than £4,000,000,000 under management, Schroders can justifiably claim to be one of Britain's leading fund managers. Investment research and management offices are situated in many of the world's financial centres including, of course, New York and London.

Schroder Unit Trusts have been distinguished over many years by their excellent investment performance in the major market sectors.

We recommend two Schroder funds well placed to benefit from the recovery of the British and American economies.

Schroder General Fund

Established in 1958 with units at the equivalent of 50p, the fund has convincingly demonstrated the quality of Schroder management. In the last eight years the unit price has risen by around 400%, outperforming the FT Actuaries All-share Index in each consecutive year.

The primary aim of the fund is capital growth through a balanced portfolio of quality investments. The fund invests substantially in the UK. Hence greater consideration can be given to income and to regular income growth than is possible with most overseas orientated growth funds. Over the last ten years the income has more than tripled.

Schroder American Fund

Launched in February 1981 at a unit price of 50p, the fund has satisfactorily met its capital growth objectives. The 116% growth achieved over this period compares favourably with a 91% increase in the Standard and Poors Index.

Funds are mainly invested in growth stocks and sectors of the US and Canadian markets, currently in the ratio 97%:3%. Our investment strategy is to blend a carefully researched portfolio of growth stocks in such areas as Technology, Telecommunications, Health Care and Leisure with substantial Blue Chip companies as well as in such

sectors as Oil and Gas, which may be temporarily out of favour.

We believe that such a portfolio will benefit particularly well from the re-assessment of market ratings which the recovery should generate.

A significant discount

For a limited period only, until 30th September 1983, Schroders are offering a 2% discount on the unit price of these two funds, adding to the existing attractions of market potential, quality portfolios and performance records.

Investment recommendation

Investors may wish to base their choice of fund on the degree of exposure they already have to either the UK or American market.

For those who are undecided, or who are not currently invested in either market, Schroders recommend an equal investment in each of the two funds. Whilst the US economy traditionally leads a trend, the UK stock market can be expected to respond quickly and sympathetically to movements on Wall Street. A dual investment will provide an ideal breadth of stability and opportunity.

How to invest

Please complete the coupon below and return it together with your cheque indicating whether you wish to invest in Schroder General Fund or Schroder American Fund, and your preference for either Income or Accumulation units.

When purchasing both funds please fill in both sentences accordingly; however, only one cheque for the total is necessary bearing in mind that the minimum of £500 per fund will amount to £1,000 on a joint purchase.

On September 7th 1983 the unit offer prices for the two funds were:

American Fund 110.8p (Income) with a yield of 0.37%; 111.4p (Accumulation) with a yield of 0.37%.

General Fund 243.7p (Income) with a yield of 2.75%; 352.2p (Accumulation) with a yield of 2.75%.

Remember that the price of units, and the income from them, may go down as well as up.

You should regard your investment as long-term.

2% Discount until September 30th 1983

To: Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd, Enterprise House, Lombard Road, Portsmouth PO1 2AW. Telephone: 0705 827733.

I wish to invest (minimum £500) £..... in the Schroder American Fund at a 2% discount on the ruling unit offer price. Please allocate Income/Accumulation units (delete as applicable).

I wish to invest (minimum £500) £..... in the Schroder General Fund at a 2% discount on the ruling unit offer price. Please allocate Income/Accumulation units (delete as applicable).

I would like more information on the Schroder Share Exchange Scheme Financial Planning Service

Signature..... First Name..... (in full)

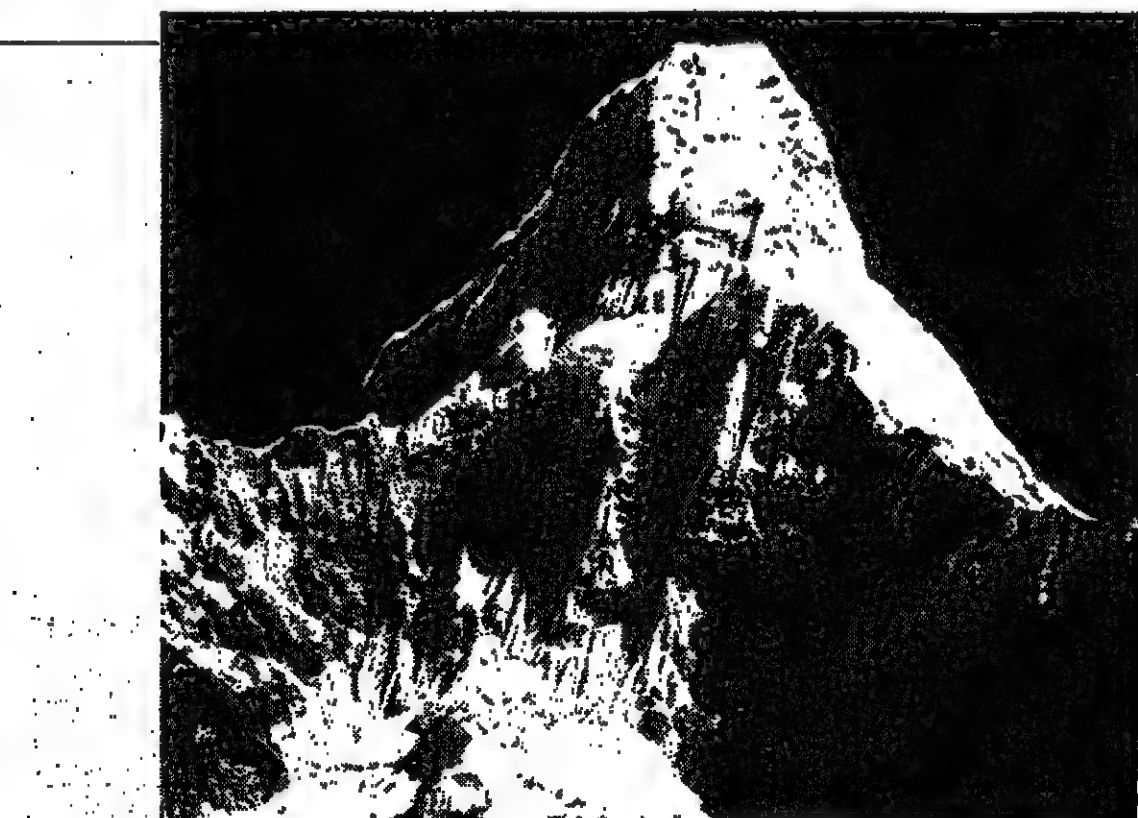
Address.....

Postcode.....

Signature..... (if not the same as above)

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Members of The Unit Trust Association.



The breathtaking rise of the Perpetual Group Growth Fund.

Out performing all authorised unit trusts for growth - 1,287% in 9 years

£1,000 invested in 1974 would now be worth £13,870

Perpetual Britain's Fast Growing Unit Trust Managers

The Perpetual Group Growth Fund has out performed all other authorised unit trusts for growth over the period since it was launched on 11 September 1974, to 31 August 1983.

The units have risen an impressive 1,287% compared to a rise of only 391% in the F.T. Ordinary Index, and the 203% rise in the rate of inflation.

If you had invested £1,000 on 11 September 1974, your units would now be worth a staggering £13,870. And remember, until these units are sold, there is no liability to Capital Gains Tax.

If you had put that £1,000 on deposit in a Building Society Share Account, for example, it would now be worth only £2,010.

How well your current holdings done over the same period?

Perpetual Fund figures are on an offer to invest basis and include not-re-estimated income. The F.T. Ordinary Index has been adjusted to include estimated net income. Investors should accept their performance as a useful guide only.

In the past four years, the funds managed by Perpetual have grown more than 10 fold. Perpetual currently manages three highly successful UK based funds - the Growth Fund, the Income Fund, and the Worldwide Recovery Fund. Although based on the same international investment philosophy each Fund has its own distinctive character and offers either excellent prospects of capital growth,

When the going gets rough, then rougher

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

Over 120 Servicemen are "ramping" their way across the hills of Central Wales in what is claimed to be the toughest infantry patrol competition in Nato.

How tough can be seen from the fact that on a miserable, wet misty first day only five of the fifteen teams managed to reach their destination anywhere near to schedule.

Two teams, representing the Third Battalion Royal Green Jackets and the Royal Marines' 3 Commando Brigade Headquarters and Signals Squadron got lost and failed to carry out any of the tactical exercises which they should have performed. The Royal Marines subsequently retired from the competition.

That first day of the Cambrian March on Thursday, had the teams struggling across 25 miles of sodden hill and moorland carrying rifles, ammunition and up to 60 lbs of kit.

It may be that the Royal Green Jackets and the Royal Marines went astray because they were drawn to set out last and with the weather steadily deteriorating they were probably moving

almost entirely, in heavy mist, navigating by compass.

The conditions were so rough and things were running so far behind schedule that the last ten teams were brought in over the last two or three miles to overnight base by truck, as night fell.

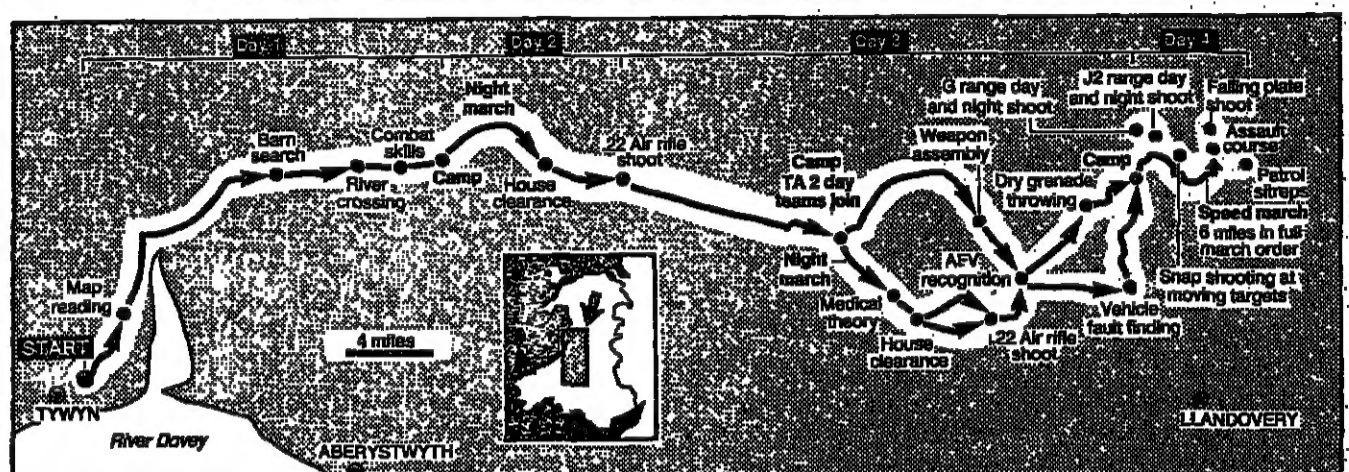
It was a day calculated to destroy men and organisations: in fact, five men withdrew with minor injuries, and in order to stabilize the situation a night march was cancelled.

The competition, which lasts four days and covers 50 miles is punctuated by various tests of military skill in which the teams, for example, search a booby-trapped building, or flush out snipers, or carry out a river crossing.

Tomorrow in final stages of the competition they will be required to make a six mile run carrying bergen (rucksacks) and full equipment, before finishing off on what promises to be an extremely muddy and exhausting assault course—and all that after covering fifty miles, performing over 20 military skills exercises, and sleeping rough for three nights.



45 Field Support Squadron Royal Engineers plan their next move. Photographs: Bill Warhurst.



Lying low: An exhausted soldier rests.

Letter from New York Zoo manners down in rude Manhattan

The other evening I was in a taxi bouncing over Manhattan's potholes in a thunderstorm. People were hurrying across the road with newspapers over their heads and the cabbie started to nudge his way through them.

A few pedestrians shouted at the driver, but a young woman went further. She stood defiantly in front of the taxi, turned her back, tipped her skirt and let her underwear express contempt.

"Animal," yelled the driver, leaning out.

"Animal," retorted the woman, waving her fist.

"Animal," said a Greek taxi driver a few days later, looking up from the Greek newspaper balanced on the bottom of his steering wheel and shouting over the Greek music on his radio, "is the only English word I know."

He told me this because he had just bawled "animal" at another driver in a diat among the potholes. It was a bad day for animals.

Little later I was queuing to pay a bill, when a fellow sufferer lost patience, remonstrated with the staff, was told to wait his turn, went the colour of a demon and cried: "I don't believe these animals." The staff said icily they were not going to deal with an animal like him.

New Yorkers are said to have a skin layer missing, so that the normal constraints of manners and tolerance are absent.

A group of psychologists have just made them feel better about it by saying that explosions of anger are beneficial in warding off high blood pressure and other ills. Get mad and ease stress, ran one headline.

New Yorkers, however, hardly need encouragement. The city's reputation as Athens-by-the-USA, is said to lie in the pace of life in this exhausting, competitive and intimidating city. People become aggressive like laboratory rats put under stress.

The city's reputation for brusqueness is also self-fulfilling in that both demizens and newcomers feel licensed to live up to it.

Mayor Edward Koch, a New Yorker to the marrow, is certainly no quiet seether and says he does not get ulcers because he says what he thinks. He once called Miss Carol Bellamy, the city council president, a "horror show".

This sort of rudeness had an echo recently in a remark by one of President Reagan's aides. He described a woman who left the

President's employ as a "Low-level munchkin" — a munchkin being a little creature in the Wizard of Oz.

A business magazine recently bemoaned the rise of uncouthness in America and referred to New York as the rudeness capital of the world. It said rudeness started growing in the 1960s, when traditional values and manners came under attack.

Some people suggest that the growth in female assertiveness has made men less mannerly. Some say concern for others has declined with the rise of selfishness in the "Me generation", and the trend of non-involvement and withdrawal, as evidenced by the thousands in the streets sheltering behind the carphones of personal cassette players.

You can pay a lot of money in New York to be fed badly and insulted by rude waiters, who expect large tips and can be heard telling people if the tip is not enough.

Bringing my bill, and noting my British accent, a waiter said firmly: "some of you Europeans think the tip is included. It is not."

Recently I was with some people enduring the surliest of the rudest waiter in Newport, Rhode Island. Asked many times for garlic bread he at last threw down some white sliced. The New Yorker at our table reacted at once to the insult, opened a window and hurled the bread out.

Any analysis of rudeness can only be subjective and anecdotal. There is certainly a rudeness about New York, and life here is well-peppered. But there are many courteous cabbies and waiters, and there is still much helpfulness, a sort of mateship that springs from shared experience; New Yorkers take pride in surviving their demanding and abrasive city.

There are reports, too, of a resurgence of manners. Books on social behaviour are becoming best-sellers. There is a difference between etiquette and courtesy, of course, but it is a start.

In the meantime people say that a rude New Yorker should not be answered in like coin, that a cool response is best. Some suggest apologizing: confrontationist New Yorkers are not used to this and are quite unmoved by it.

Trevor Fishlock

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,225

Solution of Puzzle No 16,230

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,231

1 prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 City Street, London WC99 9TT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs S. J. Blenkinsop, 179 Grosvenor Road, South Shields; Tyne and Wear; Mrs M. R. Bateman, 27 Leys Road, Cambridge; Mr E. T. Wood, 155 Bradbourne Vale Road, Severnside, Kent.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Today's events

Royal Engagements

Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, presents the prizes for the FEI European Three Day Event Championships for Young Riders to be held at Burghley, Stamford, Lincolnshire, 4.30.

New exhibitions

Paintings and Reliefs 1919-1939, Ben Nicholson; Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford; Tues to Sun 10-6, closed Mon (ends Oct 16).

Paintings by Shirley Tweed, Usher Gallery, Lincoln Road, Lincoln; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Oct 9).

Music

Concert by Royal Choral Society, the Band of the Grenadier Guards, Salisbury Cathedral, 7.30.

Malcolm Arnold: Guitar Concerto, and Roberto Gerhard: Lira with the London Sinfonietta, St. Mary's Parish Church, Peterborough, 7.30.

Concert by Warwickshire Youth Wind Orchestra, Coventry Cathedral, 7.30.

The Broadbeath Singers, 12th Annual Concert, School Hall, Elm College, Walsley, 8.

Grove Opera Recital by Susan Landale, Tewkesbury Abbey, 7.30.

Concert by LaSalle String Quartet, Snape Maltings, Concert Hall, Aldeburgh, 7.30.

Talks and Lectures

Lecture recital on Gibbons by Prof Gordon Phillips, Westbury Parish Church, Wilts, 4.

Lecture recital on Eisenstein, by Dr Christopher Kent, Westbury Parish Church, Wilts, 5.

Heraldry in Wilts, by Michael Messer and Stephen Slater, Girl Guide HQ, 1 Laura Place, Bath, 2.30.

Tomorrow

Last chance to see

Grandmother's wardrobe: fashions 1896-1983, Cliffe Castle, Spring Gardens Lane, Kelghley; Tues-Sun 10-6 (ends tomorrow).

Natural Resources of Bradford: Riches Underfoot, Industrial Museum, Moorside Road, Bradford; Tues to Sun 10-5 (ends tomorrow).

Music

Concert by the Principals from the Orchestra Opera North, St. Andrew's Church, Kirkby Malzeard, Ripon, 7.30.

Plymouth Music Week: Bourne-mouth Symphony Orchestra, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, 7.30.

Concert by the Orchestra Da Camera, Neil Gwynne Theatre, Edgar Street, Hereford, 8.

Concert by the Lindsay String Quartet, Marble Saloon, Wentworth Woodhouse, Westwicks, 7.30.

Concert by Ramsey Male Voice Choir, Bradda Glen, Port Enia, Isle of Man, 8.15.

Concert by the Onchan Silver Band, Sea Terminal, Douglas, Isle of Man, 8.

Lake District Festival 1983: Concert by John Clegg (piano), Theatre in the Forest, Grizedale, 8.

Walks

A Salisbury Walkabout, meet The Christies Green, outside Mompesson House, The Close, Salisbury, 2.30.

Hereford and Gloucester Canal. Newent section, meet Newent Market Square, Hereford, 11.

Gardens open

Tomorrow

Argyll: Cranes Woodland Garden, Minard, by Inverary; fine exotic trees and shrubs open all year 9 to 6; plant sales 10 to 4.30, Berwickshire.

The Hired, Coldstream, fine trees and shrubs; open all year in daylight hours. Hertfordshire: Cottrell, on A507, 3m S of Buntingford (on A10, on SE of Baldock and on E of Stevenage (on A1); Japanese landscape garden, stables 11 to 60. Kent: 29 The Street, Wittersham, 5m equidistant Tenterden and Rye; small garden many interesting plants, alpine and ground cover, 2 to 6. Nairnshire: Cawdor Castle, Nairn; lovely flower garden, wild garden, 4 nature trails; daily until September 30; 10 to 5.30; last admission 5pm. Northamptonshire: St. Helen's Croft, Hallow, W of Southwell, off A612 Newark-Manfield rd; 1/2 acre, alpine, rough gardens, mixed borders, silver foliage, flower arrangements, plants, shrub roses, plants for sale, 2 to 5. Somerset: Kingsdon, at Somerton, 2m SE of Somerton off B3151 Ilchester road; 2 acre plantations garden; many unusual plants for sale, 2 to 7. South-west: Wootton House, Burleigh Wootton, 3m S of Glastonbury; herbaceous borders, rose and rock gardens, trees, shrubs, woodland garden; 2 to 5.30. Surrey: Combined garden at Park Hatch, Leatherhead, 10.30 to 4.30. Through Round House, 3m S of Goldingham on B2130 between Haslemere and Dunsfold; 2.30 to 6.

In the garden

Lawns have taken a beating this year unless it was possible to water them. They will recover, but there may be bare or worn patches that need repair. Prick these areas over lightly and sow seed, watering them well and then cover them with old peat or clear plastic sheeting, firmly pegged down, to keep the birds from scratching about and stealing the seed.

Worms will be appearing any time now on lawns. Apply a worm killer if they are really a menace, or just sweep off their worm casts if possible and let the worms aerate the turf. Do not tread or roll the casts into the turf or bare patches and weeds will result.

R.E.I.

Roads

London and South-east: M6 One-lane traffic on westbound carriageway between junction 4 (Harrow) and junction 5 (Langley). A3 Lane restrictions today and tomorrow on Burlington fwyer, New Malden. A322: Resurfacing work on Chelsea Embankment between Chelsea and Battersea bridges, today and tomorrow. Albert Bridge closed 8-5 today and tomorrow.

Midlands: A456: Temporary signals at Welton, on Tamworth Wells to Kidderminster Road, A38. Contraflow at Alrewas, Staffordshire. A6: Single-lane traffic with temporary lights at Oadby in Leicestershire.

Wales and West: A435: Cheltenham to Evesham road closed at 2 pm tomorrow at Cheltenham race course. A487: Three sets of temporary lights working 24 hours a day at 1st Llyn on Gwyndol, North Wales. A725: No access to westbound side of A8 Edinburgh to Glasgow Road at Bellshill, Strathclyde; diversion signed from 7 am today to 5 pm tomorrow. A874: Southbound carriageway closed at 10.30 on 14th, 4 and 5 (Hamilton and Larkhall).

Information supplied by the AA.

The papers

France is fiddling while the rest of the West is burning to get on with economic recovery, the Wall Street Journal claimed.

The latest Socialist move to keep growth at bay is to pickpocket the French by increasing — again — the country's marginal tax rates," it said. "That's not the way to recovery, increasing marginal tax rates means the less remunerative work becomes, ergo works less."

There's human nature... even if the work is for the greater gloire de la France: increasing tax rates will decrease output every time."

The paper said that the refusal of airline pilots from Britain, France, Canada, Denmark and Sweden, to fly to the Soviet Union for 60 days was a response by the workers to an outrage perpetrated by the Soviets against members of their profession. "No government should allow it to do it and no government is daring to tell them they must not."

Weather forecast

A depression over S England will move away E, and cool, showery, N air stream will spread to the whole country.

6 am to midnight

London, SE E central S, central N England, East Angles, E W Midlands, Channel Islands: Rain turning showery with light easterly breeze, wind variable becoming NW fresh or strong, max temp 16 to 17C (61 to 63F).

SW, NW, NE, SE, S, N Wales, Lakes District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, central Highlands: Showers and sunny intervals with N breeze or strong; max temp 14 to 15C (57 to 59F).

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